

The
BULLETIN
of the
MASSACHUSETTS
AUDUBON SOCIETY



NOVEMBER 1955

VOLUME XXXIX

NUMBER 8

MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1896

INCORPORATED 1914

FOR THE PROTECTION OF WILD BIRDS AND MAMMALS

AUDUBON HOUSE, 155 Newbury Street, Boston

Open weekdays, except Saturday, 9:00 - 5:00; Saturday, 9:00 - 1:00.

Phone KENmore 6-4895.

ROBERT WALCOTT

President

C. RUSSELL MASON

Executive Director

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS

Aaron Moore Bagg
E. Alexander Bergstrom
Thornton W. Burgess
Lawrence B. Chapman
Robert Crane
Walter Prichard Eaton
Samuel A. Eliot, Jr.
Guy Emerson

S. Gilbert Emilio
W. Cameron Forbes
Alfred O. Gross
Mrs. Augustus Hemenway
Bartlett Hendricks
John F. Kieran
D. Percy Morgan, Jr.
Roger Tory Peterson

Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr.
Frederick A. Saunders
Henry S. Shaw
John H. Storer
William G. Vinal
George J. Wallace
William P. Wharton

DIRECTORS

OAKES I. AMES, *Chairman*

Mrs. Donald C. Alexander
Clarence E. Allen
Richard Borden
Miss Rachel S. Bruce
John H. Conkey
G. W. Cottrell, Jr.
Lee W. Court
Eric Cutler

Laurence B. Fletcher
Mrs. Maxwell E. Foster
Ludlow Griscom
Philip B. Heywood
Miss Louisa Hunnewell
Edwin C. Johnson
Ralph Lawson
John B. May

Rosario Mazzeo
Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller
Alva Morrison
Mrs. James F. Nields, Jr.
Mrs. John Richardson
Mrs. Sydney M. Williams

MEMBERSHIP

The Society needs a larger fund in order to sustain and increase its activities. Will you help expand its usefulness? The classes of Membership are:

Active Member, \$3.00 annually; Supporting Member, \$5.00 annually;

Contributing Member \$10.00 annually; Life Member, \$100.00; Patron, \$500.00.

Dues and Contributions to the Massachusetts Audubon Society may be deducted from net income subject to Federal Income Tax. Bequests to the Society are also exempt from Federal Tax.

ADVANTAGES OF MEMBERSHIP

Personal participation in the preservation and restoration of native birds and mammals and their environment.

Information from competent specialists on the best methods of wildlife study and protection on home grounds, in sanctuaries, or elsewhere, and assistance in identification.

All members receive without further expense the monthly BULLETIN.

Opportunity to contribute toward an extensive EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM for schools, youth groups, and camps throughout the State.

Use at any time of the Reference and Lending Libraries, Club Room, and other facilities at Audubon House, 155 Newbury Street, Boston.

Members and their friends have free use of our sanctuary facilities at Moose Hill, Arcadia, Pleasant Valley, Cook's Canyon, Nahant Thicket, Ipswich River, Marblehead Neck and Rocky Knoll (see inside back cover of *Bulletin*.)

Conducted field trips to strategic points, and seasonal Campouts for bird watchers.

Special member's discount allowed on purchases of bird food, bird feeders, bird-houses, books, and other supplies.

BULLETIN

OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Issued monthly, except July, August, and September

C. RUSSELL MASON, *Editor*

Assistant Editors

HELENA BRUCE, ERNESTINE DOW HARVEY, MARJORY BARTLETT SANGER

ROBERT L. GRAYCE, *Advertising Manager*

RUTH P. EMERY, *Editor, Records of New England Birds*

Contributing Editors

THORNTON W. BURGESS, JOHN V. DENNIS, SAMUEL A. ELIOT, JR.,

KIMBALL C. ELKINS, ADA CLAPHAM GOVAN, LUDLOW GRISCOM,

ALFRED O. GROSS, RICHARD HEADSTROM, BARTLETT HENDRICKS,

ROGER TORY PETERSON, ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., WILLIAM G. VINAL.

VOLUME XXXIX

NOVEMBER, 1955

NUMBER 8

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
The President's Page	366
Summer Sea Birds on Georges Bank	<i>Robert L. Grayce</i> 367
Among Our Contributors	374
Folk Names of New England Birds (Continued)	<i>W. L. McAtee</i> 375
Looking Ahead	380
Brewster versus Peterson	<i>James Fisher</i> 381
The Riddle of Fall Migration on Nantucket (Part II)	<i>John V. Dennis and Lee Jay Whittles</i> 388
Education Notes	<i>Frances Sherburne</i> 395
Enjoy the Outdoors in November	<i>Richard Headstrom</i> 396
Day Camps for Education	397
Rare Bird Appears on Cape Cod	<i>Peter M. Isleib</i> 398
Birds Round the World on Postage Stamps	
No. 6. Storks of the Family Ciconiidae	<i>C. Russell Mason</i> 399
Sanctuary News	<i>M. B. S.</i> 401
Field Notes	<i>Ruth P. Emery</i> 403
New Staff Members	406, 407
In Memoriam, Elliott Bradford Church	407
William P. Wharton Receives Award	408
Membership News	409
Book Reviews	411-419
Audubon Field Trips	421
From Our Correspondence	422
Cover Illustration, CANADA GEESE, Bartlett M. Hawthaway	

Editorial Office, AUDUBON HOUSE, 155 Newbury Street, Boston 16, Mass.

Publication Office, 380 North Avenue, North Abington, Mass.

*Entered as Second Class Matter October 21, 1946, at the Post Office
at North Abington, Mass., under the Act of March 3, 1879.*

Subscriptions to the *Bulletin*, \$2.00 per annum, included in all memberships. Subscription to *Records of New England Birds*, \$2.00 per annum. Single copies of either, 25 cents. The *Bulletin* may also be obtained in microfilm, details on application.

The Editor solicits the gift of articles, notes, photographs, and sketches, on the various aspects of Nature Lore, Natural Science, and Conservation of Natural Resources. If possible, articles should be typewritten, double-spaced, on one side of the paper. Photographs should be on glossy paper with data attached. The Society is a non-profit educational institution and we offer no remuneration for contributions to the *Bulletin*. The Society assumes no responsibility for the safety of manuscripts or illustrations submitted for its use.

All correspondence, changes of address, etc., should be directed to the
Editorial Office, 155 Newbury Street, Boston 16.

The President's Page



Elmer Foye, Director of the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary at Topsfield, kindly lent me a copy of "The Countryman" for Spring, 1955 and called my attention to an article concerning the possibility of a bird sanctuary being made a center for many useful activities in natural history education, such as we are now attempting in our summer classes at Cook's Canyon and also carry out during the summer months at several of our sanctuaries.

In his article "What Are Field Centres?" Mr. R. S. R. Fitter writes:

"The Council's aim was to establish a series of residential centres in districts chosen for the richness and variety of their countrysides. Each was to have a warden and staff qualified to encourage and supervise research and to give instruction in a wide range of field work in science and art. Not only animals and plants were to be studied but the rocks, soils, weather, geography and human history of their surroundings. Even in 1943 this was a somewhat unconventional approach; thirty years earlier it would have been considered downright cranky. Geology, botany, and zoology were, of course, based on specimens collected in the field, but their foundations had to be laid in the museum and the laboratory. Once a tradition of indoor working has been established, many of its practitioners are apt to look down on work done without the aid of test-tubes and microscopes, and to dismiss field workers as mere collectors."

In connection with the Audubon summer program, we have found that experts in diverse special skills are often willing to give a little time to instructing pupils in such interesting subjects as physical geography, geology, botany, dendrology, entomology, zoology, etc. Nowhere are better displayed the permanent remnants of our land under the continental glaciers than in the drumlin of Bradstreet Hill and the north and south kames at Ipswich River Sanctuary. And how striking an example of recent river action is the marsh at the outlet of Mill River and the cut-off island in the Connecticut River at our Arcadia Sanctuary—while, in contrast, Pleasant Valley shows the wearing down of "The Everlasting Hills"!

Robert L. Walcott

Summer Sea Birds on Georges Bank

BY ROBERT L. GRAYCE



ROBERT FITZPATRICK

Greater Shearwaters are disturbed into flight as the ship approaches.

Introduction

The fishing ground of Georges Bank lies off the coast of Massachusetts as part of the continental shelf of northeastern North America. Crossed by latitude 41° and longitude 68° , its western boundary is eighty miles southeast of Cape Cod, with the deeper water of Great South Channel dividing it from Nantucket Shoals. Ovate in outline trending in a northeast-southwest axis, Georges Bank includes an area of 8498 square miles, which is larger than the State of Massachusetts by almost 250 square miles and is exceeded in size among its group only by the Grand Bank off Newfoundland. Georges Bank has several shoals which are shallow places, and in one spot only fourteen feet deep. These have names, of which the most important, from west to east, are Cultivator Shoal, Georges Shoal, and Winter Fishing Ground. Over the shoals fast tides move as much as three knots, making obvious smoother waters than the surrounding, more choppy depths and judging by their maximum concentrations, offering more attractive resting spots for birds. Tidal rips, resembling lines of breakers before bursting, as seen at any beach, mark the

edges of these shoals and the boundary of the bank itself, often placed at thirty fathoms for Georges. The water temperature in summer on the western part of Georges Bank averages about 56 F., indicating the influence of the drift of the cold Labrador Current. Air temperatures at midday rise approximately fifteen degrees above the water temperature.

From samples of bottom dredgings, the sediments of Georges Bank show it to be, like Cape Cod, the product of the glacial detritus of the Pleistocene ice sheets. Georges Bank is something of an island just beneath the ocean. It is a distinctive unit spatially, isolated within the larger pelagic habitat—an isolation complete and long enough to have produced a specialty among flatfish, the Georges Bank flounder, *Pseudopleuronectes dignabilis*. Its uniqueness is emphasized, too, by the fact that at seaport daily fish auctions Georges had-dock, although not a subspecies biologically, is considered the choicest obtainable and brings the highest price. Although it cannot be proved, I think that Georges Bank has an attraction in summer for certain pelagic birds, as do their breeding sites. Among Southern Hemisphere visitants, as the Sooty and Greater Shearwaters and the Wilson's Petrel, the same individuals, as well as the bulk of specific populations, return to the shoals of Georges as they would to their remote nesting burrows on Tristan da Cunha, Gough, or the islands, Scotia Arc, of Antarctica itself.

For four full days in July (July 8-11), before the main migration, I had the opportunity to observe pelagic birds on Georges Bank aboard the *R. V. Bear*, a research vessel of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. The *Bear* is a diesel-driven vessel with a length of 96', beam of 21.1', draft of 10.7', and speed of 10 knots. The purpose of the trip for the institution was connected with the erection of the first sea-placed radar station, the so-called "Texas Tower." Other observers aboard obtained findings from dredgings, determined wave and swell heights, or made weather observations (Georges often being very foggy locally because of air advection currents from the relatively near Gulf Stream).

The accompanying table presents a list of the species recorded and indicates the number and placement of these eleven birds observed.

Occurrence, Plumages, and Behavior

As may be seen by the table, the Greater Shearwater outnumbered the Sooty Shearwater by about twenty to one. This one-sided abundance is somewhat explained because of the occurrence of a phenomenal, continuous "raft," or aggregation, of Greater Shearwaters strewn along the shoals of the Winter Fishing Ground at 41° 49'N, 66° 55'W. This massive concentration, ten to fifty birds wide and extending along the shoal as far as the eye could see, I have enumerated with the low number of 2500 birds, but it could have been ten times this figure. Most of the birds seemed tired, their bills turned into the feathers of the back. Nor would they fly at the approach of the ship but wriggled to one side with alternating foot movement. I had a feeling they must have just arrived after a long flight and represented the bulk of summer visitors. The water temperature on this shoal was 55 F. when these birds were seen at 4:45 P.M., cold water compared to the warm southern entrant stream we encountered on this July 9. I was interested, too, that among all the many shearwaters that day there were only Sooty Shearwaters with the Greater, no Cory's, or Cinereous, Shearwater, *Puffinus diomedea*, neither here nor elsewhere during the four days' observations. Nor did I see any of the so-called



"small shearwaters," the Manx, or Common, Shearwater, *Puffinus puffinus*, or the Dusky, or Audubon's, Shearwater, *P. lherminieri*, — birds which may occur later in summer or in the fall of the year.

As with other tube-nosed birds of the order *Procellariiformes*, the sexes look alike in the Greater Shearwater. It is common, though, for larger members of this order to have several plumage phases, as do the jaegers. However, in the literature, such as Bent's *Life Histories*, I have not read of one plumage phase of the Greater Shearwater noted, a few birds among the thousands with distinct white patches toward the wing tips, perhaps a molt. Brown at the side of the breast of several birds was more pronounced than in others, although I never saw a complete pectoral collar.

The flight pattern of shearwaters is not only diagnostic from afar, but their dynamic soaring seems so deft and actually intriguing that I suppose it is for this reason one can watch them day after day without a single moment of monotony. This characteristic brief flapping and long side-slipping of a fusiform body has been well described by Dr. Charles W. Townsend, who saw so many once on a trip to Labrador:

"with long shapely pointed, slightly decurved wings they scale along close to the waves, sailing into the teeth of the wind by skillfully taking advantage of the air currents deflected upward from the surges. Now they turn on their side, with one wing just grazing the water, the other high in the air. Again they take a few quick wing strokes and launch themselves just above a breaker, but so close that one expects to see them overwhelmed on the foam." (*Life Histories of North American Petrels and Pelicans*, Arthur Cleveland Bent, Bulletin 121, United States National Museum, p. 68.).

Specifically concerning Georges Bank, the shearwaters often ran the tidal rips. There the waves were higher, and apparently more wind was available. During totally calm spells, I watched shearwaters beat their wings as much as seventy times as they pattered along the surface before getting enough leverage for flight. Usually they could just turn into the wind and with a gentle spring and fewer than half a dozen strokes be soaring on their way. The method of landing on the water interested me. As the Greater Shearwater comes to a halt, its wings are somewhat flexed and fluttered stiffly, but not placed so horizontally nor fluttered so shallowly as the Fulmar.

Shearwaters are seldom vocal at sea, but when the ship passed through the large raft on the Winter Fishing Ground, one bird rocked up and down with half-opened wings and made bleating notes much like a lamb, repeating this until we were out of earshot. So far as I know, they do not take part in a nighttime chorus on foggy night, like the storm petrels, but apparently remain inactive and sleeping at that time.

Certainly shearwaters are sociable birds, a fact which I had never quite realized before this Georges Bank trip. I had usually seen them when the sea had been so tossed up that they were on the wing. Georges Bank in summer can be as windless as the doldrums. On the shoals, especially, the shearwaters would raft up, giving one a chance to study their actions, also raft-composition as to species. The sociability is not just for the same species, since Sooty Shearwaters would be found in the midst of Greater Shearwaters. Fulmar and Herring Gull would choose to alight amid the shearwaters, and once I saw the Parasitic Jaeger, after coming down and forcing a Sooty Shearwater to dive shallowly beneath the surface, sit down himself peacefully. Although some people may think such rafting is for protection, it could just as well be an innate attraction or social bond that is non-sexual. I do not think the shearwaters at sea have any mortal enemies, the harrying jaegers being more a nuisance than anything else.

The Fulmars, it seemed to me, should have been on their northern nesting grounds. I was surprised to note as many as fifty birds on Georges Bank in summer, with as many as twenty-one in one day. I was surprised, too, that of this number I had only one dark-phase bird, since headquarters of this color phase is toward the western North Atlantic. One bird seen had rather irregular lighter blotches in the mantle, giving somewhat the effect of the Pintado Petrel, or Cape Pigeon, of South African distribution. Another was almost a clear white bird — apparently a phase I had seen before off Nova Scotia and on the high seas of the North Atlantic.

So much more fascinating are the shearwaters and the Fulmar that one is inclined to leave almost unnoticed the ubiquitous storm petrels. I had never had such a good chance to appreciate the daintiness of the dancelike steps of Wilson's Petrel, the abundant and common form. In the slick shoal waters, sometimes amid the rafts of shearwaters, this petrel would skip along the surface, never once sitting down to rest, as I recall it. The petrels keep going even at night and when foggy. As we lay at anchor on the mooring site, where these birds were no doubt attracted by the pilot light, it was like the spring-time jangle of tree frogs to hear their calls often very musical, as the described "bluebird notes." Now and then skimming and tilting, like a nighthawk flying low when catching insects, the Leach's Petrel could be seen flying abeam. I recorded eighteen, of this species, although I must have overlooked many of them. Beyond this, I had been alerted to look for any other species of the eastern Atlantic. Although I do not accept the following officially, I find in my notes for July 9, 1955, the following: "4 stormy petrels (one flock) like Wilson's but feet not beyond square tail and right alongside of ship." Bent's *Life History* mentions that this European stormy petrel, *Hydrobates pelagicus*, may be found breeding along the North American coast as at Sable Island, although this seems doubtful.

The phalaropes add a needed touch and increase the zest for bird watching on the fishing banks. Massed in flight, swirling and tilting, now high, now low, alighting, then away again, they are typical sandpiper in flight action. I associate them with seaweed, since they would most frequently be located at spots with floating rockweed (*Fucus* and *Ascophyllum*). Probably more tiny crustaceans cling about the seaweed, which attracts them. A tuna fisherman aboard, of thirty-two years' experience at sea on the fishing banks, mentioned that they liked to eat what he called "red feed" — the zooplankton also taken by the mackerel. In fact, he said he associated the two together, and that fishermen used the phalaropes as indicators of mackerel schools. His name for the phalarope was the old vernacular "Sea Geese," which was also the way he spelled it, and very inappropriate until you hear the phalaropes call, as they do in alarmed flight, a loud, high-pitched *see-gee, gee, gee* — probably the original vernacular was "See-gees." The Red Phalarope is the common one in summer on Georges, about half of them being all-gray birds, either immatures or adults in fall plumage. The red on other individuals looked washed out and not so brilliant as birds I have seen in mid-July in Labrador. The sixty-four birds recorded for July 10, 1955, occurred in one flock. Others listed under "Phalarope spp." were flying far off, being most probably Red Phalaropes but not close enough for corroboration by identification marks.

Jaegers are the most difficult birds to identify of those observed (see Ludlow Griscom's "Notes on the Jaegers," *Bull. of Mass. Audubon Soc.*, Nov. 1943, v. 27). I had a chance for plenty of practice recording twenty-four birds. It is significant that I saw no full or aged adults with well-developed central tail feathers. Of the two species, Parasitic and Pomarine, flight pattern and the amount of white in the wings were most helpful. The Pomarine's flight is deeper and more masterful than the slimmer, smaller Parasitic; its bill is more massive — something like differences between Glaucous and Iceland Gulls. I saw only one good light-phase Parasitic with short tail points. Most Parasitics were immature or dark phase (it was sometimes hard to tell the difference), with about three of the intermediate phase. I saw only one dark-phase Pomarine, the others being immature or in some intermediate phase

showing pectoral collars and varying degree of under part and flank barrings. Any of my "just jaegers," too far away to get identification points, could have been immature Long-tailed Jaegers, *Stercorarius longicaudus*. Never once did I see the jaegers eating anything, nor did their harrying of their own kind, the Herring Gull, or the shearwaters produce anything. They seemed to be attracted by the boat and would often circle about once before heading away relatively high in the sky.

Although when a bird is seen at sea on two different days it is customary to record this and total it as two, I feel quite certain that the Skua at approximately the same vicinity was the same individual. It was a dark bird in adult plumage and not the grayer immature. It was seen both days on the cold water of western Georges at 41° 40'N, 67° 15'W and probably roams little after once placed and finding favorable food conditions.

The Herring Gulls were all adults, their exquisite markings and color of body, wing-pattern, and soft parts being now fully realized, where their numbers were so few and they were high-flying and the largest birds seen. They offered a yardstick for size in quickly telling Pomarine from Parasitic Jaegers, the latter in comparison being such small birds. There were no Kittiwakes, not even an immature, nor any terns seen at this time of year on offshore Georges Bank. No stray land birds were observed.

Table I. Georges Bank Pelagic Species; July 8 - July 11, 1955

	7/8	7/9	7/10	7/11	Total
Sooty Shearwater					
<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	13	112+	38	33+	196+
Greater Shearwater					
<i>Puffinus gravis</i>	322+	3000+	375+	280+	3977+
Fulmar					
<i>Fulmar g. glacialis</i>	11	21	13	5	50
Leach's Petrel					
<i>Oceanodroma l. leucorhoa</i>	8+	1+	7+	2+	18+
Wilson's Petrel					
<i>Oceanites o. oceanicus</i>	225+	500+	500+	100+	1325+
Red Phalarope					
<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	1	8	64		73
Northern Phalarope					
<i>Lobipes lobatus</i>	1	5			6
Phalarope spp.		25	21		46
Pomarine Jaeger					
<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>		4	4		8
Parasitic Jaeger					
<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>		4	6	2	12
Jaeger spp.	1		3		4
Northern Skua					
<i>Catharacta s. skua</i>			1	1	2
Herring Gull					
<i>Larus argentatus</i>	4	1	4		9
Total species:	9	10	10	7	

7/8/55. Run from Cultivator Shoal to Georges Shoal, ending at permanent mooring site at 41° 41'N, 67° 19'W. Weather: Visibility variable; often dense fog. 6 A.M. water temperature 54 F.; air 64 F. Species total: 9.

7/9/55. Cruise from mooring site along 41° 41'N for about thirty-five miles to 66° 30'W and return. Weather: Clear to foggy; clearest at northeast section. At farthest east off the bank proper, the ship entered a warm water intrusion from the south, with water temperature rising to 64 F. Sharks were numerous; only a smaller population density was noted among birds. The most unusual sight of the day was the single huge raft of about 2500 Greater Shearwaters on the shoals of the Winter Fishing Ground. Species total: 10.

7/10/55. Cruise from mooring site to and along northeast edge of Georges Bank and return. Weather: Foggy, later clearing. Schools totaling about 40 Pilot Whales, or Black-fish, *Globicephala* sp., and one Finback Whale, *Balaenoptera* sp., were encountered. The northern Skua was a rarity. Species total: 10.

7/11/55. Cruise on Georges Shoal and environs. Weather: Foggy, visibility poor. Species total: 7.

Summary

A geographic description of Georges Bank is given, emphasizing the uniqueness of the area and proposing the hypothesis that it may be an accustomed "wintering" location for populations of Southern Hemisphere breeders. A table is presented enumerating the species of bird, date observed, and general abundance. Eleven pelagic species were recorded from July 8 to July 11, 1955, from aboard the *R. V. Bear*, a research vessel of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Remarks on exceptional occurrences, plumages, and behavior intimate the relationships of these birds to one another on Georges Bank, to the specific environment, and to the time of year.

Bird-Banders Meet at Cook's Canyon

The brilliance of swamp and sugar maples, sumach, and five-leaved and poison ivy decorated the countryside of upper Worcester County as members of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association gathered the first day of October at Cook's Canyon for their annual meeting.

In the absence of the president, Dr. Charles H. Blake, who was on a banding research expedition to the West Indies, Vice-president C. Russell Mason presided. Parker C. Reed, of Lexington, reported for a special committee which has drawn up a comprehensive program of certification for bird-banding traps offered for sale, and there was a lively discussion of banding techniques and the type of materials to be published in the quarterly journal.

Officers elected were as follows: President, Edwin A. Mason, Director of Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Northampton; Vice-presidents, Joseph A. Hagar, of Marshfield Hills, and Richard M. Hinchman, of Milton; Secretary-Treasurer, Daniel P. Johnson, of Osterville; Editor of *Bird-Banding*, E. Alexander Bergstrom, of West Hartford, Connecticut; Councillors, James Baird, Newport, R. I.; Lawrence M. Bartlett, Amherst; Richard Hayes, Lunenburg; John Stewart, Burlington; Mrs. Bertram Wellman, New Ipswich, N. H.

Field Meetings, to which members are invited to bring guests, are being scheduled in April, at the Bergstrom banding station in West Hartford, Conn., and in July, at the banding station of the Parker Reeds in Lexington. Lawrence B. Chapman, of Princeton, heads the Program Committee for the ensuing year.

Among Our Contributors

J. KEMP BARTLETT, JR., who reviews *Wild Fowl Decoys* in this month's *Bulletin*, is an active practicing attorney in Baltimore. His collections of decoys has been a source of pleasure for him and for visitors to the museums where they have been displayed. As a vice-president of the League of Maryland Sportsmen, which has a membership above 8,000, he has been particularly interested in improving conditions for waterfowl along the Eastern Shore. When he is able to find time for a vacation, he fishes for trout along the Mastigouche in the province of Quebec, stopping, as he passes through Boston, to pay his respects to the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

JAMES FISHER, one of Britain's leading ornithologists and a graduate of Oxford University, leads a most active life as writer, radio and television broadcaster, explorer, and conservationist. He has written many scientific papers and a score of books, many of them helping to popularize the field of natural history, and several of his books have been reviewed in the *Bulletin*. He is currently editor of the *New Naturalist Series*. The story of the thirty-thousand-mile tour which he made from Newfoundland to Mexico and Alaska with Roger Peterson as companion and guide is now available to us in *Wild America*, published in October by Houghton Mifflin Company. Many of our members will recall the day he spent with us at the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary, a visit which he vividly describes in the early pages of this book, of which he is co-author with Peterson. Mr. Fisher is a member of

the British Ornithologists' Union and a Corresponding Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union.

ESTHER GREENE, of New Rochelle, N. Y., has taken up bird study as a hobby after finding so many species right in New York City, where she works and where she has found congenial bird-watching companions accompanying Farida Wiley, of the American Museum, on her Central Park expeditions. Vacations from her duties as librarian of Barnard College are taken on Martha's Vineyard and at Eastham on Cape Cod, where she observes shore birds almost in the shadow of "The House on Nauset Marsh," which is the title of the book she reviews in this issue. A graduate of Grinnell College in Iowa, she has made library work her career, with special emphasis on books for children.

WENDELL P. SMITH, who writes to us from North Carolina, was born far from there in Wells River, Vermont. A boyhood spent out-of-doors on a hilltop farm led to a special interest in birds — particularly in migration — the keeping of records, and banding. Many of Mr. Smith's ornithological studies have been published in *Bird Banding* and *The Auk*. In 1930 he was appointed State Ornithologist of Vermont, a position he held until he resigned in 1954 to live in the South. One of his contributions while in office was an early investigation of the effects of DDT spraying on the bird life of New England. He also published a list of Vermont birds for the State Department of Agriculture.

Coming Events at the Berkshire Museum

Pittsfield, Massachusetts

- November 1. Exhibition of Paintings by Lewis Rubenstein.
- November 1. Exhibition of Sculpture, by Beatrice Paipert.
- November 1, 8 p.m. Hoffmann Bird Club Meeting.
- November 2, 3 p.m. Opening of course, "Birds About Your Home," by Bartlett Hendricks.
- November 3, 4, 5, 8 p.m. Pittsfield Town Players — "Over 21."
- November 5, 12, 19, 26, 10:15 a.m. Children's Nature Hour.
- November 6, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Annual Water-Fowl Census. Hoffmann Bird Club.
- November 8, 8 p.m. Meeting of Berkshire Museum Garden Club.
- November 8, 8 p.m. Freedom Forum.
- November 9, 8 p.m. Camera Club Members' Night.
- November 11, 8 p.m. Movie-Lecture—Cleveland Grant. "Wildlife of Marsh and Mountain."
- November 17, 8 p.m. Program by Berkshire Film Society.
- November 18, 8 p.m. Camera Club—Color Slide Competition, "Tips on Kodachrome."
- November 18-21. Little Cinema — "Court Martial."
- November 18, 19, 21, at 8:15 p.m.
- November 20 at 2:30, 7, and 9 p.m.

Folk Names of New England Birds

By W. L. McATEE

(Continued from October Bulletin)



ALFRED O. GROSS

Eider Ducks, known by many names, including Raft Duck and Sea Duck, gather in numbers off Cape Cod in winter.

OLD-SQUAW. Butterfly Coot (Mass. Coot is applied to most sea ducks; this one has conspicuous coloration, hence "butterfly."); Cockawee (Maine, Mass. In imitation of its notes.); Dodger (Mass. From its erratic flight.); Hound (Mass. The chorus of sound from a number of these birds suggests the baying of a pack of hounds); Long-tail (Mass. The middle tail feathers of the male are elongated.); Long-tailed Duck (Mass., Conn., R. I. Same note.); Old Injun (Mass., Conn. The male, to correspond with "Old Squaw," when the sexes are recognized); Old Mammy (Conn. From its "garrulity."); Old Sou'southerly (Mass. In imitation of its notes.); Old Squaw (Rather general. In allusion to its "talkativeness."); Old Wife (N. H., Mass., Conn., R. I. Same note.); Quandy (Mass.); Scolder (Mass.); Scoldenore (Maine, N. H. These two also are "garrulity" names.); Sea Duck (Maine); South-southerly (Mass., Conn., R. I. From its calls.); South-south-southerly (Conn. Same note.); Winter Duck (Mass.).

HARLEQUIN DUCK. Cock Lord (Maine. The male; see note on Lord and Lady.); Lady Lord (Maine. This name is both logical in designating the female of a species often called simply "lord," and illogical in implying that a "lord" can be feminine.); Lord (New England); Lord and Lady (Maine, N. H., Mass. In allusion to its handsome plumage; while these terms refer basically to the sexes, they are customarily used together to indicate the species and usually in the plural, "Lords and Ladies"); Lord and Lady Duck (Maine, Mass.); Lord Bird (Maine); Rock Coot (Mass. From frequenting ledges; any sea duck may be called a coot.); Rock Duck (Maine); Sea-mouse (Maine. From its habitat and squeaking notes.); Sea Pigeon (N. H., Belknap, 1792); Squeaker, Squaler (Maine).

LABRADOR DUCK. Black-belly (Mass. Descriptive of the adult male.); Pied Duck (Maine, Mass. The male was boldly marked, black and white.).

AMERICAN EIDER. Black-and-white Sea Duck (Mass.); Canvasback (Maine, Mass. The back is white.); Ducks and Drakes (Maine); Greenland Bird (Mass. A name indicating northern origin.); Isles-of-Shoals Duck (Maine, N. H., Mass., Conn. From a wintering ground off the coast of New Hampshire.); Mongrel (Mass. The young male in incomplete plumage, thus supposed to be a hybrid.); Pied Wamp (All. The adult male; "wamp" is from an Indian term meaning white.); Raft Duck (Mass. From its assembling in dense flocks on the water.); Sea Coot (Conn.); Sea Duck (All); Sea Duck and Drake (All; usually spoken in the plural.); Shoal Duck (Mass.); Shoal Island Duck (Maine. From the Isles-of-Shoals, N. H.); Squam Duck (Maine); Wamp (Mass., Conn., R. I. From an Indian name meaning white).

KING EIDER. Cousin (Mass. As a relative of the American Eider.); King Duck (Conn. The enlarged base of bill and pearl-gray crown may have kingly suggestions.); Mongrel Drake (Maine. As like, but still unlike, the male of the American Eider, or Sea Drake, perhaps through hybridization.); Sea Duck (Maine); Spectacled Duck (Mass. The markings on the face of the male somewhat suggest spectacles.); Wamp's Cousin (Mass. As related to the Wamp, or American Eider); White-head Coot (Maine, N. H. The top of the head is pearl gray in the adult male, not black as in the American Eider.).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER. Bell Coot (Mass.); Bell-tongue, Bell-tongue Coot (Conn.); Black White-wing (Mass. The male; the female is more brownish.); Brant (Mass. This term may allude to the bird's large size, for a duck.); Bull Coot (Conn. The male, from its large size.); Bull White-wing (Mass. The male.); Coot (All); Eastern White-wing (Mass. A supposed variety; equals May White-wing.); Gray Coot, Gray White-wing (Mass. The female and young, which are brownish, however, rather than gray.); Great May White-wing (R. I. See note on May White-wing.); Great White-wing (Mass., R. I.); Half-moon-eye (Maine. In the adult male, a crescentic spot including the eye is white.); May White-wing (Mass., R. I. Fully adult birds, supposed to represent a distinct variety, seen in mid-May.); Pied-winged Coot (N. H., Mass. The speculum is white.); Scooter (Conn. Local form of Scoter.); Scoter (Mass.); Sea Brant (N. H. See note on Brant.); Sea Coot (Mass.); Uncle Sam Coot (Conn.); White-eye, White-eyed Coot (Mass. A spot including the eye and the iris of the male are white.); White-wing, White-wing Coot (All. The speculum is white); White-wing Duck (Conn.); White-winger (Maine).

SURF SCOTER. Bald-headed Scoter, Baldpate (Maine. From the white spots on the head of the adult male.); Bald-pated Coot (R. I.); Black Duck (Mass.); Box Coot (Conn. Possibly this term refers to the enlarged basal portion of the bill of the male.); Brown Coot (Mass., Conn., R. I. The female and young.); Butter-boat-billed Coot (Maine, Mass. The bill, with its enlarged base, if inverted, might be likened in shape to a butter boat or dish); Coot (General); Google-nose (Maine. That is Goggle-nose, from the markings on the bill of the adult male suggesting spectacles.); Gray Coot (All. The female and young.); Hollow-billed Coot (New England. The bill is swollen basally.); Horse-head, Horse-head Coot (Maine. Means big head.); Little Gray Coot (Mass. The female and young.); Muscle-bill (Maine); Patch-bill Coot (R. I. The male has a round black spot "like a piece of court-plaster" on each side of the bill.); Patch-head (Maine, Mass., R. I.); Patch-head Coot (Maine); Patch-poll Coot (Mass., Conn. The adult male has two triangular white spots on the head.); Pictured-bill (Mass. The bill is "singularly variegated in color."); Pish-aug (Mass. The female and young. A Pequot Indian term meaning duck.); Plaster-bill (Mass. See note on Patch-bill Coot); Scoter (Conn.); Sea Coot (All); Skunk-bill (Maine, N. H.); Skunk-bill Coot (Maine. From the partly black and white coloration of the bill of the adult male.); Skunk-bird, Skunk Coot (Mass.); Skunk-head, Skunk-head Coot (Maine, N. H., Mass., Conn.); Skunk-top (Conn. These names refer to the black and white coloration of the head of the adult male.); Snuff-taker (Conn. The partly orange bill of the male may suggest discoloration as from taking snuff.); Speckled-bill Coot (Conn. The bill is parti-colored.); Spectacled Coot (Conn. Markings on the bill of the adult male suggest spectacles.); Surf Coot (Maine); Surf Duck (Mass., Conn., R. I.); Surfer (Mass. One that frequents the surf.); Whistling Diver (R. I. A note, and the sound made by the wings in flight, both may be described as whistling.); White-head Coot (N. H.); White Scop (Conn. That is, white-head; there are two white spots on the upper surface of the head of the adult male.).

AMERICAN SCOTER. Black Butter-bill (Mass. The bill of the male is yellow at base.); Black Coot (Maine, Mass., Conn.); Black Duck (Maine, N. H., Mass., Also in British provincial use for the European Black Scoter); Black Scoter (Mass., Conn. Same note; early reference, Willughby-Ray, 1678); Black Sea Duck (Maine); Brown Coot (Mass. The female and young.); Brownny Coot (Maine. Same note.); Butter-bill, Butter-bill Coot (All); Butter-nose (Mass.); Butter-nose Coot (R. I. See first note on this species.); Coot (All. Also in British provincial use.); Copper-bill, Copper-nose (Mass. See first note.); Dumb Coot (Maine. It is no more silent than the other species.); Fizzy (Mass. The female and young.); Gray Coot, Gray Duck (Maine, Mass., Conn. Same note.); Hollow-billed Coot (New England. See note under the Surf Scoter); King Coot (Maine); Punkin-blossom Coot (Mass. From the yellow base of the bill of the male.); Red-billed Coot (R. I. A misnomer, yellow being called red; see preceding note.); Scoter (Mass., Conn.); Sea Coot (R. I.); Sea Duck (Maine. Also in British provincial use.); Sleigh-bell Duck (Maine. From the ringing whistle made by the wings in flight.); Smutty, Smutty Coot (Mass. The female and young; their plumage is mostly sooty brown.); Whistling Coot (All. From the sound made by the wings in flight; the bird also has a whistling note.); Willow-legs (Mass. The young.).

RUDDY DUCK. Bluebill (Maine. The bill is slaty blue in the adult male.); Booby (Conn., R. I. As often lethargic, or unsuspicious of man.); Broad-bill (Maine, R. I.); Broad-bill Dipper (Mass.); Broad-bill Ruddy (R. I. On these three names, consider Trumbull's (1833) note, "bill almost as noticeably broad at end as Shoveller's." As to the second, dipper, as usual, indicates a habitual diver.); Bumble-bee Coot (N. H., Mass. From its small size and the rapid motion of its wings in flight.); Butterball (General. As being, sometimes, excessively fat.); Cock-tail (Mass. The tail is often carried erect.); Creek Coot (Mass. As inhabiting small waters.); Dapper (Mass. That is, diver.); Daub Duck (Maine); Dipper (Maine, Mass., R. I. A busy diver.); Doppet (Mass. Diver.); Dumb Bird, Dumb Duck (Mass. As being generally silent.); Dun Bird (Mass. The general color of the male in full plumage is reddish chestnut.); Fool Duck (Maine, Mass. As being unsuspicious of man.); Foolish Coot (Conn. Same note.); Goose Widgeon (Mass.); Green Hard-head (R. I. See next note on Hard-head; application of "green" unknown.); Hard-head (Mass., Conn., R. I.); Hard-headed Broadbill (Conn. See note on Broadbill. "Hard-head" either because it is especially resistant or, being small, escapes through gaps in the shot pattern, this species has the reputation of being hard to kill.); Murre, Pond Coot (Mass.); Ruddy (Mass. The adult male is chiefly reddish chestnut); Sleepy-head (Mass. As being often lethargic.); Spoonbill (Mass. See note on Broadbill.); Stiff Tail (Rather general.); Stiff-tailed Widgeon (Mass.); Stiffy (Maine. The tail feathers are unusually stiff.); Tough-head (Mass. See note on Hard-head.); Widgeon, Widgeon Coot (Mass. Widgeon is a general-purpose name for small-to-medium-sized ducks.).

HOODED MERGANSER. Crested Sheldrake (Mass. Both sexes are crested, the male conspicuously so. Sheldrake, applied generally to the mergansers but also to some other ducks, especially those of striking coloration, means pied drake.); Dipper (Mass. That is, diver.); Fish Duck (General. From feeding on fishes, which this species does to a lesser extent than our other mergansers.); Hairy-crown (Mass. Both sexes are crested, the male conspicuously so.); Hell-diver (Maine. Facetious name for a prodigious diver, more often applied to the loons and grebes.); Little Fisherman (Mass. The smallest of the fish ducks.); Little Sheldrake (Maine. A parallel remark; see also note on Crested Sheldrake.); Pickaxe Sheldrake (Maine. From the silhouette of the crested head and pointed bill.); Pond Sheldrake (Maine, Conn., R. I.); Sawbill (General.) The bill is provided with prominent serrations.); Sawbill Diver (Conn.); Sheldrake (Rather general. See first note on the species.); Shell Duck (R. I. Shell is an error; see note on Crested Sheldrake.); Smew (R. I. British provincial name for the smallest of the European mergansers.); Summer Sheldrake (Conn. Formerly, at least, it bred in that State.); Water Pheasant (Maine. As a showy bird of the waters.); Wire-crown (Mass. In allusion to the rays of the ample crest of the male, which can be opened and closed like a fan.); Wood Sheldrake (Mass. As inhabiting swamps and nesting in tree cavities.).

AMERICAN MERGANSER. Big Pond Sheldrake (Mass. Sheldrake means pied drake.); Bracket (Conn. Meaning unknown.); Bracket Sheldrake (Mass., Conn.); Breakhorn (Mass., R. I.); Diver (Mass.); Fish Duck (General); Fisherman (Mass.); Fresh-water Sheldrake (Mass. More common inland than is the Red-breasted Merganser.); Goosander (General, though perhaps more as a book name than the records indicate. This name, an old



FRANCIS HARPER

The Red-breasted Merganser, or Sheldrake, is an abundant migrant and winter visitor along New England shores, appearing in September and leaving in April and May.

one, applied also to the European subspecies, means goose-duck); Orange-breast (Mass. The under plumage of the adult male is creamy white to salmon buff, the salmon, however, fading after death.); Pheasant (Maine. As a conspicuously colored bird.); Pheasant Sheldrake (Mass.); Pond Sheldrake (Maine, Mass.); Pond Shell-bird (Mass. Shell an error for sheld, which means pied.); Rose-breasted Goosander (Mass. See notes on Orange-breast and Goosander.); Sawbill (General; also in British provincial use. See note under the preceding species.); Sheldrake (General); Swamp Sheldrake (Mass. A misnomer for this species which would fit the Hooded Merganser very well.); Velvet-breast (Conn. The cream-to-salmon color of the breast of the male may suggest this name, but the plumage is no softer than in the other species.); Water Pheasant (Mass. As a conspicuous aquatic bird.); Winter Sheldrake (Maine, N. H., Mass.).

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER. Bracket (Conn. Meaning unknown.); Brown Bird, Brown Merganser (Mass. The female and young, which have more brown in the plumage, are more uniform than the parti-colored adult male.); Cock Sheldrake (Mass. Probably only the conspicuously colored male.); Common Sheldrake (Maine, R. I.); Fish Duck (General); Fisherman (Mass.); Gar-bill (Conn. The bill is slender and has prominent serrations, thus is reminiscent of the jaws of the gar fish); Long Island Sheldrake (Conn.); Pheasant Sheldrake, Red-breasted Sheldrake (Mass.); Robin (Mass. From the cinnamon color of the breast of the male.); Sawbill (General; also in British provincial use.); Sea-robin (Mass. It frequents salt water and the male has a cinnamon breast.); Sheldrake (General; also in British provincial use.); Shelduck (Conn. Pied duck.); Shell-bird (Mass. See note on Pond Shell-bird under the preceding species.); Spring Sheldrake (Maine, Mass.); Wood Sheldrake (Mass. A misnomer which would fit the Hooded Merganser very well).

LOOKING AHEAD



November 1, 8, 15, 22	Rocky Knoll, Milton. 10:15 A.M. to 11:45 A.M. "THE THREE KINGDOMS." General conservation and natural history workshop.
November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Rocky Knoll, Milton. 10:15 A.M. to 11:45 A.M. "THE WEB OF LIFE." General conservation and natural history workshop. Identifications.
November 3, 10	Audubon House, Boston. 7:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. "THE WEB OF LIFE." General conservation and natural history workshop. Identifications.
November 19	"THE ECOLOGY WORKSHOP." Monthly field trip meeting.
November 20	AUDUBON FIELD TRIP to Newburyport and Cape Ann. Full announcement in this <i>Bulletin</i> .
December 10	"THE ECOLOGY WORKSHOP." Monthly field trip meeting.
December 21	Boston Common. CHRISTMAS TREE FOR THE BIRDS.
January 22	AUDUBON FIELD TRIP to South Shore.
February 11	ANNUAL MEETING. Hayden Memorial Hall, Boston University. 2:00-10:00 P.M.
February 12	AUDUBON FIELD TRIP to Essex County and Cape Ann.

Wild Flower Society Notes

The New England Wild Flower Preservation Society will have "Open House" on Tuesday, November 29, from four until six o'clock, in their new quarters at Horticultural Hall, 300 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston. A selection of flower drawings by Dr. J. Dillinger Barney, skilled artist, physician, and for many years a member of the board of trustees, will be on display. Tea will be served. Members and friends are cordially invited to attend.

A suggested wild flower program for school children has been prepared by the Society and is ready for use of grade school teachers. Written lectures with kodachrome slides, project cards, and a reference list of books are available for teachers without charge. Copies of the brochure outlining this program may be obtained by writing to the secretary or calling the office of the Society, KENmore 6-7711.

A lending library for members has been started. Books on wild flowers, nature, and allied subjects are available for both children and adults. Seed catalogs and magazines may be used for reference in the office.

An attractive assortment of gifts, as well as flower post cards, Christmas cards, books, prints, and charts are on display and for sale in the new quarters. Members and friends are invited to come in, browse around, and borrow or buy a book or two.

PERSIS GREEN, *Executive Secretary*

Brewster versus Peterson

By JAMES FISHER

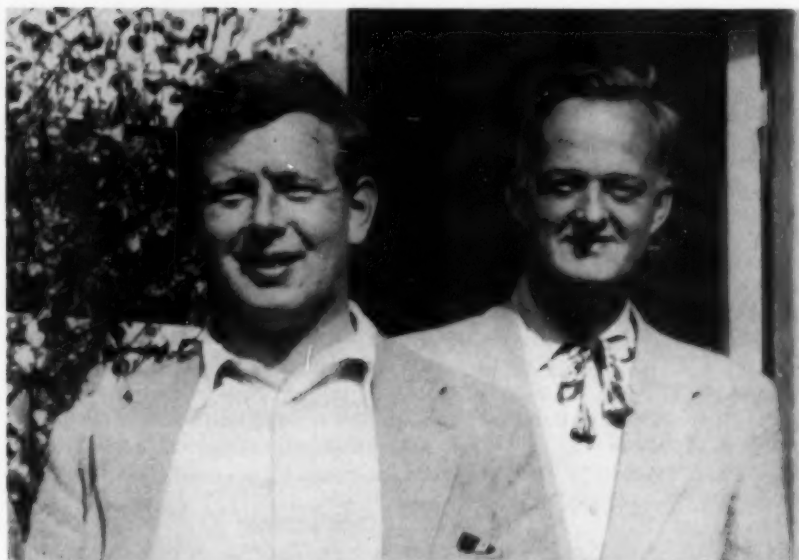


PHOTO COURTESY HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY

James Fisher, Briton, and Roger Peterson, American, have probably interested more people in birds than any other men now living. This picture of them was taken when they were exploring in Swedish Lapland, prior to the momentous journey to view American birds recounted in *Wild America*.

In the spring of 1885 William Brewster made the first ornithological exploration of the southern end of the Appalachian chain.* When Roger Peterson and I made our big swing around "wild America" in 1953, our path crossed his along the Blue Ridge Parkway and in Asheville. Though he made his base of operations at Asheville, most of his work was done south and east of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, in what is now the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests, and in the Black Mountain area. In twelve days ("too short to allow anything like a thorough investigation," he overmodestly wrote), between May 23 and June 3, he covered about 150 miles. "Travelling in a light open wagon," he recounted, "with a driver to look after the horses, I was perfectly independent and free at any time to jump out and pursue a bird or explore a tempting bit of cover." Roger and I, with Roger's big estate wagon, covered far more miles in our four days. To back us we had a sixty-eight-year accumulation of written knowledge, greater mobility, Arthur Stupka [Park Naturalist], and fine binoculars (Did the great man have any? If he did, they were certainly no good.). Moreover, we were a month earlier in the season, and had the spring flush of migrants to enjoy. By the time of Brewster's visit most of the migration had passed on.

Roger, in 1944, had been awarded the Brewster Medal by the American Ornithologists' Union. This award is given annually "to the author of the most important work relating to the birds of the Western Hemisphere published during the preceding six years." The second edition of Roger's *A Field Guide to the Birds* was judged such a work. On him, then, had fallen a mantle of one who in Ludlow Griscom's opinion "was one of the greatest and most naturally gifted field ornithologists that America has ever produced."

* (1886). AUK, 3: 94-112, 173-79.

By the time we reached North Carolina the percentage of birds familiar to me in the Old World had shrunk to a daily average of seven. For me to contribute seriously to the day's tally was impossible; indeed I found practically nothing that Roger did not find first. Ever since we met the advancing warbler's in strength at Washington I had become just a participant in the day's birding — what is the word? — not a passive participant, I hope; perhaps I should say, a recording participant. In cricket terms: the birds did the bowling, Roger the batting, and I was the scorer, the spectator of his virtuosity as he made runs all round the wicket. But, as we shall see, though Roger scored a brilliant century, the great field man of 1885 had scored 98*, all those years ago, on a much stickier wicket, against superior bowling.

Our score was 115. But seventeen of these were migrants, of which, at Brewster's season, all but the stragglers must have passed north; no wonder he did not see them. One, the Starling, had not arrived in Brewster's time. Another, the Laughing Gull that we saw, was a patent vagrant. Subtract these nineteen, and the score was:

Brewster, 98

Peterson, 96

So, even though we exceeded Brewster's actual score (we did so at the end of our second day, when we had tallied 101), Brewster, the paragon of field men, was the master.

Besides the nineteen species just mentioned, we saw fifteen species that Brewster did not see. Two of these, (Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron) he listed, though he did not see them himself. Cooper's Hawk he "missed," Loggerhead Shrike, Blue-winged, Cerulean, and Pine Warblers, Cowbird and Vesper Sparrow, too. Killdeer and Horned Lark we got in a habitat he probably did not cover. He missed our Barn Swallow and Bank Swallow — perhaps not the last, though. "I believe I saw the bank swallow once or twice," he wrote, "but I did not identify it fully." And of course, rightly, he left it off his list. He missed the English Sparrow, though it was in the area already. Charles F. Batchelder,** our sole surviving*** link with the pioneer field men of those days, listed it at Asheville in December of the same year, 1885.

Brewster himself saw seventeen species that we did not. In his day the Turkey was abundant; and the Duck Hawk nested on "nearly every suitable cliff on the higher mountains." These are now a good deal rarer. Nor is the Golden Eagle as frequent. But how did we miss Wood Duck, Broad-winged Hawk, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Nighthawk, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Bewick's Wren, Red Crossbill? Lack of application? Probably we could have picked

*to his own bat. We have excluded the species he listed that he did not see himself.

**THE AUK, 3: 314.

***This was written before C. F. Batchelder's death on 7 November 1954, at the age of 98. He was the last of the founders of the American Ornithologists' Union.

most of them up had we worked as hard as Brewster, though the birds of prey might have been more easily scored had they had better soaring weather during our visit. Bewick's Wren we might have got had we spent (as Brewster did) some daylight hours in Asheville's suburbs. Red Crossbill, numerous in Brewster's time in small flocks in the balsam forests above 5000 feet on the Black Mountain, we should have had on the high tops; and Red-breasted Nuthatch there, too. Brewster, who perhaps was less superhuman on owls, found only one Barred Owl's feather; perhaps that lets us out on that species. The Hairy Woodpecker, too, he saw only "occasionally at wide intervals," and the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and Olive-sided Flycatcher only on one restricted plateau. He saw but one Blue Grosbeak, and the Purple Finch in one place only.

So we did not disgrace ourselves; indeed (in my role of Boswell to Roger's Johnson) I must honestly say that Roger did a full Peterson on the area; and a full Peterson is a very skillful, exhaustive (also exhausting), and accurate treatment! Yet, if the full Peterson can at least bear comparison with the full Brewster, it is apparent that the full Brewster reached heights of field craft that have never since been, and may never again be, reached. In a moving passage* Ludlow Griscom suggests that few, if any, modern field ornithologists can compare with Brewster; and I quote part of Griscom's reasons:

"(a) His ability to recognize birds instantly at a distance was as great as anybody's, but the distance was reduced for lack of worthy optical instruments.

"(b) His hearing and musical memory were little short of marvelous. He could hear the high lisping call notes of kinglet and creeper in his sixty-seventh year.

"(c) The modern 'expert' passes rapidly through a study period, with textbooks, bird guides, song manuals, records of bird-songs, prism binoculars, powerful telescopes, and the use of an automobile, as assets taken for granted. Moreover, ample series of specimens are available in numerous museums if he is sufficiently interested to study them. Most important of all, a vast literature tells him just what birds to expect in his region, and he can accompany members of an older and experienced generation in the field who tell him what to look for and just what he is hearing. For Brewster these assets were reduced to zero. The textbooks were inaccurate, the literature was woefully defective, the few museum specimens were often erroneously determined. Nobody knew how many species of thrushes or *Empidonax* flycatchers there were. Unfamiliar songs and call-notes had to be run down, and the bird shot for identification; Brewster described the song and call-notes of many species for the first time, as a matter of original research and discovery.

"(d) He was a dead shot and an expert collector.

"(e) Brewster was an expert at finding nests, and tossed off six to ten a season of those most famous for difficulty. For him field work in the breeding season presupposed the finding of the nest, to have any validity. The modern expert in identification has never laid eyes on the nests of most of the breeding birds of his region, couldn't find many of them if he tried, or the effort would be so bumbling and protracted an affair as to arouse Brewster's pity and contempt."

* (1949). THE BIRDS OF CONCORD. Harvard University Press, pp. 13-14.

So much for William Brewster. It was not until our trip was over that we looked up his old paper and found defeat staring us in the face. Honorable defeat, but defeat unequivocal. We often wonder what the final tally of our record-breaking swing around the continent would have been, had William Brewster come along. But of course he did come along, in a sense; he travels with every North American bird watcher (though the bird watcher may not know it) in his field books, and in his field drill and discipline, and in his method of work.

"Discovery" Enchants Young and Old



ANDREW ETTINGER

Mrs. Grimes explores a "bog."

That viewers of the television program sponsored jointly by the Massachusetts Audubon Society and the Children's Museum are delighted by the weekly presentations is apparent from excerpts from letters received by Mary Lela Grimes, conductor of the program.

"I want to congratulate you on the Monarch [butterfly] show," writes a listener from Topsfield. "The subject and presentation seemed to me full of drama and suspense."

A viewer in Boston had this to say about a recent program, "A World with Death Traps," which featured a quaking bog where insectivorous pitcher plants were investigated: "Every time you took a step on the bog I could feel the wet gooey mud. I watched it all with great interest."

"Your programs are beautiful," says a rightly appreciative listener from West Newton. "I would like so

much to boost this fine project of yours."

We hope that all of our members will help to boost this fine project. Watch "Discovery" whenever you can, Fridays, 6:00-6:30, on WGBH, Channel 2. Tell your friends about it and urge them to watch it, too. Speak of it to the teachers in your neighborhood schools, and ask them to announce the time and titles to their classes. Give a "Discovery Party" for a child, with the program as the feature entertainment. The time is just right for ice cream and cake to follow.

Every Friday, 6:00 p.m., Channel 2, WGBH-TV

November 4 — A Trip to the Arctic

November 11 — The Water World — Aquaria

November 18 — Duck Ways

November 24 — The Good Word — BON

The Riddle of Fall Migration on Nantucket

Part II

BY JOHN V. DENNIS AND LEE J. WHITTLES



A. O. GROSS

A summer resident on the mainland, the Cedar Waxwing is known in Nantucket as a rare spring migrant and is occasionally abundant in the fall.

A tour of the Island of Nantucket, as we have seen, was very productive from the standpoint of viewing fall land migrants. Had our young friend missed several feeding and resting places along well-traveled migration routes, or had he made his trip during a period of southerly winds, his luck would not have been so spectacular. As it is, full of excitement over his findings, he visits the science library of the Maria Mitchell Association to obtain reading matter on bird migration.

After much reading, supplemented by daily field trips over a period of several weeks, he has acquired definite views on some aspects of migration on Nantucket, but on others he is very much at sea. By the end of his stay he can say with some confidence that migration through the island, confined to a northern route and a more southerly coastal route, is along a narrow front. The northern route is dominated by birds of the brushland, pastures, and by a larger number of diurnal migrants. The southern route is dominated by warblers and other woodland species, almost all normally nocturnal migrants. Migration along either route is apparently wholly diurnal, and, so far as he can find, there is no evidence of nocturnal migration on the island. Migration is continuous throughout the day. Migration, as on the mainland, is stimulated by the passage of cold fronts; heaviest migration is after the passage of a strong front. Migration is almost equally as pronounced on

northeasterly or northwesterly winds, but only a trickle with southerly winds. Flights consist of several elements and contain a wide variety of species. Within almost every influx of migrants there is a western, southern, and northern element together with species known to reside on the island or the adjacent mainland. There is no evidence that birds are bewildered or lost. Several common mainland species are completely absent or exceedingly rare, and a few species are consistently more abundant than others and some of these relatively more abundant than on the mainland.

As for the unknown, our friend can only surmise that most migrants reach the island from Monomoy and the outer Cape. Talks with local observers, some of whom have seen flights of birds at sea, seem to confirm this. But by what route do migrants reach the outer Cape? Do some make an over-water flight directly from Nova Scotia? And what of the southern and western species which turn up so frequently? Do some reach the island from Martha's Vineyard or do they follow the same outer Cape route used by northern migrants? And what effect, if any, does wind drift have in the build-up of fall flights? What is the explanation for the conspicuous absence of such common mainland species as the Phoebe, the Field Sparrow, the Chipping Sparrow, and the Blue Jay? And, as a source for endless speculation, how might the island's migration pattern fit in with land masses as they existed at the end of the last ice age?

Leaving our friend to ponder these problems, let us gather together, as it were, significant items from migration studies in many parts of the world, and see how they can help us in solving our Nantucket riddle. A comparison of various studies in coastal and insular situations reveals that each geographical location seems to be an entity unto itself, each with its special group of migrants, and each with its influence upon migrants. Reactions by migrants to topography and the weather, particularly wind direction, seem to vary from place to place according to local conditions. As an example, the greatest concentrations at Cape May are with northwesterly winds and those at Cape Charles, Virginia, with northeasterly winds.

Broadly speaking, islands frequented by small land migrants seem to fall into two groups — those in the path of regular migration lanes and those outside normal migration lanes but utilized by migrants when they are borne off-course by wind or other adverse weather factors. In the latter group are the small North Sea Islands of Heligoland, Fair Isle, and, off the coast of Norway, Utsira. These islands, under certain weather conditions, are crowded with migrants from the mainland. A surprisingly large proportion are rarities with eastern affinities. Other islands in northern Europe, such as Oland off the coast of Sweden, are equally famous for concentrations of land migrants, but for the special reason that they lie within regular lanes of migration.

The fact that an island is in the path of normal migration does not necessarily make it a favorable spot for viewing migration. Much depends upon local topography and whether or not water at times acts as a barrier to continuation of flight.

The importance of topography was realized by a German, Geyr von Schweppenburg, some thirty years ago. Having developed the thesis that birds find their way to breeding or wintering grounds by following what is now known as a standard direction, he went on to show that under some conditions they have recourse to visible navigational aids. Topographical features, such as coast lines, river valleys, or boundaries between fields and wood-

land, take on importance when travel in the standard direction is difficult and serve to divert flight into what are now known as leading lines. As Geyr and other students have shown, leading lines may be followed to such extremes that birds are taken many miles off course. The leading line effect is most noticeable when conditions, on the whole, favor migration, but when an obstacle, such as an over-water crossing, temporarily impedes flight in the standard direction. Under some conditions water barriers appear to be no obstacle at all; under others, as when a strong wind is blowing, they are of consequence in slowing migration.

The leading line is not important for birds flying at night, but may be of considerable importance during the day. Whenever a leading line turns sharply away from the standard direction, birds will tend to break away and readjust the direction of their flight. Some species are more responsive to leading lines than others. The Skylark, for instance, is not as easily diverted by leading lines as the Chaffinch or Starling. Immature Starlings are more easily diverted than adults.

It should be kept in mind that when migrating birds are not reacting to the influence of topographical features they are generally well dispersed over the countryside, and their movement is said to be on a broad front. Nocturnal migration is characterized by broad front movements. During the day, when the leading line is a factor, flight is on a narrow front. Observers, particularly in mountainous and coastal regions of Europe, are learning more and more about frontal migration and the effect of leading lines. The term "visible migration" is used to define either broad or narrow front movements during the day which can be detected from the ground. In the April issue of the *Ibis* for 1953, "visible migration" is discussed by a number of authorities, and much space is devoted to the importance of the leading line effect.

"Coasting" is a term used by the British to describe leading line movements along beaches and water fronts. The British are particularly well situated to learn about this type of migration, and their ornithologists, together with those of Scandinavia, Germany, and the Lowlands, have made important contributions.

In our own country, bird watchers are well acquainted with such ideal localities for viewing bird migration as Hawk Mountain, Mt. Tom, Cape May, and Cape Charles. The leading line concept, however, is new to this side of the Atlantic, and ornithologists have yet to apply it to specific localities. Nevertheless, enough is known about the response of migrating birds to well-known landmarks to know that the leading line is of importance here as abroad. For instance, when wind conditions in fall are not favorable for crossings at Cape May or Cape Charles, birds tend to follow the bay shores northward. Thus at these capes we can often see spectacular leading line or coasting movements getting under way. Stanley C. Ball has written of diurnal migratory movements in fall at the southeastern tip of the Gaspé Peninsula which resemble certain of the coasting movements noted in the Old World. A main migratory movement here tends to become funneled into a long narrow peninsula known as the Forillon. Birds come into the Forillon from the northwest, make their way to the extreme southeastern tip, and then, instead of flying five miles across a body of water to its southern shore, invariably double back along their original course.

Wherever pronounced coastal irregularities exist we can anticipate coasting movements at some season. Generally where two prominent topographical

features converge, as a river estuary and a coast line, concentrations can be expected during at least one of the migrational seasons. Also coasting movements may be anticipated wherever birds depart on over-water flights, or, in some cases, along the coast where birds arrive after an over-water flight.

If a coasting movement is observed and little is known about over-water flights, converging lines, or the influence of topography, it is hard to tell whether the movement is strictly of local importance or has its origins elsewhere. Nantucket is a case in point. Birds adhere very closely to the curvature of the island, as already mentioned, and their movement into the island seems to be influenced by the geographical position of Monomoy. Their departure seems closely related to the position of the neighboring islands of Tuckernuck and Muskeget. Beyond this we can only guess as to the origins or destination of the movement. We do not know if lengthy over-water flights are involved. Neither do we know if converging lines help produce the movement.

One aspect of migration through Nantucket is of very great interest and may well have a bearing upon this question, and this is the continuation of movement throughout the day by both typical nocturnal and diurnal flyers. This is in contrast to what Gunnar Svardson has to say in the April *Ibis* for 1953. Although he has noted two peaks of diurnal activity for some species at Ottenby on the southern tip of Oland off Sweden, he mentions the fact that "all writers, dealing with the diurnal rhythm of migrants, stress the marked flight in the morning hours. The stream of birds gradually diminishes later in the day, often before noon . . ." Writing of the large fall concentrations at Cape May, Witmer Stone says: "These congested migratory movements always occur early in the morning or, at least, they are over by 8 o'clock except possibly in the case of the hawks." In the Gulf States in spring, however, migrants, including typical nocturnal flyers, may be precipitated at any hour of the day upon the arrival of a cold front.

We could refer to other examples, either of cessation of flight in the early morning or of flight by typical nocturnal flyers during the day. Instances of the latter are unusual and are mainly reported for regions of difficult habitat, such as barren coast lines or high mountains.

At Cape May and Ottenby apparently the more normal situation prevails. Converging coast lines and water acting as a barrier under certain wind conditions make for periodic concentrations during the fall. Coasting movements originate at these points in the early morning. Later in the day migration slackens and, with few exceptions, there is little activity. Along our southern Gulf coast, however, depending upon the time of their departure and the weather conditions they encounter, birds arrive at various times through the day regardless of whether they made a trans-Gulf flight or kept to the Texas coastal belt. The inhospitable habitat, consisting of water and coastal marshes, of necessity keeps migrants on the move night or day.

Although the distances involved are much less, a somewhat similar situation may account for the daylight flights at Nantucket. Cape Cod, with its dunes, marshes, and scrubby woodland, and surrounded as it is by water, hardly provides the kind of habitat to hold large numbers of migrating birds. However migrants may reach the Cape, whether by wind drift, over-water flights, or diversion along leading lines, most of them would find their surroundings no more congenial than had they just reached the vast marshes and small coastal thickets of the Gulf coast region. In either region birds are



ALLAN D. CRUICKSHANK

The Black and White Warbler had been considered a rare vagrant on Nantucket but records since 1950 place this species among the more abundant fall warblers.

in danger of being blown out over water, and special habitats required by many do not exist. Under such circumstances migration takes on a new pattern.

Just when and where nocturnal migrants switch to daylight flights in the Cape Cod region we cannot say. It is conceivable that an invisible daylight migration takes place on Cape Cod just as it does in the Gulf coast region. This might, in part, explain the appearance of migrants in large numbers on the outer Cape only under conditions of westerly or northwesterly winds. Such winds would tend to precipitate migrants because of the danger of their being blown out to sea. Morris Island at the northern end of Monomoy and a thicket at the southern end of Monomoy, for instance, are well known for their concentrations under such wind conditions. As Dennis has observed on Morris Island, small land migrants seem to be pinned to wooded portions during northwesterly winds, and, during the day, a few migrants were actually seen to arrive from the south. Aside from this no movement was detected to or from the wooded area.

On Nantucket, on the other hand, diurnal migration is very apparent. Here it is strictly a narrow front movement, and is observable because of the habit of many migrants of stopping off to rest and feed in such spots as the Mothballs and the Madaket thicket. That nocturnal migration by land migrants is limited over Nantucket is not surprising. Visible navigational aids

would certainly be a necessity for birds which have departed from movement along a broad front and are clinging to a complicated course through islands and other coastal features. Whittles over three seasons has made lunar observations on Nantucket with negative results. Only two birds were spotted and these were believed to be shore birds. And seldom have the overhead notes of passing migrants been detected at night.

On the outer Cape there is little evidence of nocturnal migration. Miss Ivy LeMon, of the Massachusetts Audubon Society staff, in all-night lunar observations found a maximum of three birds. There is evidence to indicate that migration on the outer Cape and on Nantucket is largely diurnal whether the migrants are normally diurnal or nocturnal. Although we do not yet know whether migration on the outer Cape falls into leading line pattern, we feel that on Nantucket we are witnessing a final stage in a pronounced coasting movement which very well may have its origin several hundred miles to the north.

In its early stages, a coasting movement, we believe, follows the Cape May pattern. As distances increase and birds are taken ever away from the standard direction, the movement changes in character. Individuals, more so among some species than others, break away or lose themselves from the movement. Migration becomes more diurnal, particularly as the route becomes more exposed and favorable habitat disappears. In its final stage as represented, so we think, by Nantucket, the movement is continuous throughout the day and for the most part diurnal. In this stage the make-up of passing flocks is far different than on the mainland. Strays and certain rarities, for instance, have stayed with the movement until the end, presumably because they are lost and are merely tagging along with the others. Certain other birds, as the Cape May Warbler, are in proportion much more abundant than on the mainland.

Within this concept we see, at last, a reason for higher than average counts for Western Kingbird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Hooded Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Prothonotary Warbler, and Lark Sparrow in the outer Cape region. And, as determined by daily counts at Nantucket observation points during fall migration over four years, we find a consistently higher count for Cedar Waxwing, Myrtle Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Western Palm Warbler, Common Yellow-throat, American Redstart, Savannah Sparrow, and Song Sparrow than for other species which frequent the small isolated thickets. Very rare or totally absent as transients on Nantucket are the Chimney Swift, Eastern Phoebe, Blue Jay, Eastern Bluebird, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Common Goldfinch, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, and Swamp Sparrow.

It will be recognized that most of the birds in the latter group are fairly common on Cape Cod. Perhaps the existence of suitable habitat for such species on the Cape is the reason why they do not join other migrants in the movement through Nantucket. But this is not an entirely satisfactory explanation, as much habitat on the outer Cape seems ideal for the Common Yellow-throat and Myrtle Warbler, to give two examples of common migrants on Nantucket. We can agree with Griscom and Folger, who state in *The Birds of Nantucket*: "... in dealing with an island we must reckon with a well-known principle, true of all continental islands everywhere. One of the peculiar things about an island is that certain birds occur regularly, and others do not, though we can see no reason why this should happen." But, at least,

it can now be said that the leading line effect gives us a clue as to the occurrence or non-occurrence of birds on continental islands.

And, finally, it might be said that the leading line provides a more convincing reason for the appearance of migrants in fall on the outer Cape and Nantucket than does the widely held theory of wind drift. According to Griscom and Folger in *The Birds of Nantucket*, "The normal fall migration route in Massachusetts is southwest; birds that have reached the outer Cape and Nantucket have been going southeast, and are consequently vagrants in trouble." And in *A Guide to Bird Finding East of the Mississippi* Olin S. Pettingill, speaking of Cape Cod and the adjacent islands, says: "... most warblers and other land birds are poorly represented. Easily one hundred species that commonly breed in the interior of the state are rare or absent here. Even during migration they ignore the area by passing directly north or south far to the westward, though exceptions may occur when strong westerly winds blow them off their course." Our studies do not support this opinion.

The following points, to our way of thinking, nullify the importance of the wind drift concept at least so far as Nantucket is concerned:

1. Migration with northeasterly winds is often as pronounced as with northwesterly winds, and this applies to winds over most of New England as well as Nantucket and to winds aloft as well as surface winds.
2. Migration is largely diurnal. Wind drift would tend to displace night-flying birds, lacking visible aids, more than diurnal flyers.
3. No instances of mortality have been observed among transients reaching Nantucket, and few instances of birds in apparent difficulty. One exception is an observation by Mr. Philip Heywood, weather conditions and exact date unknown. At Great Point he noted the arrival of dozens of warblers, kinglets, and nuthatches which landed on the beach, jeeps, and even on fishing poles. Some were very exhausted. All came from the direction of Monomoy.
4. Birds are well oriented. Even before birds gain altitude on departing from coastal thickets they are oriented along a particular course. This is just as true on days of fog and poor visibility as on clear days.
5. Consistently high numbers have been noted for some species, while others are rare or absent. Wind drift would be expected to displace migrating birds without reference to species.
6. The flow of migration through the island during the day is relatively stable. For the most part, birds feed and move on. They do not come in erratically, as might be the case had they been blown off course.

This does not suggest that huge flights of migrating birds are not sometimes swept out to sea by adverse winds. Indeed there is much evidence that this occurs over many parts of the world. On occasion such flights may reach Nantucket. Heywood's observation at Great Point may be an example. We do know that individuals or even small flocks of birds can be blown out to sea, as we have observed during daylight on the southern coast of Nantucket. A certain percentage of the land birds following the coast may well be blown out to sea each year, but these losses must be insignificant compared to those which take place where birds fly regularly over large bodies of water, as the Gulf of Mexico, the Mediterranean, and portions of the North Sea. In the North Sea, such islands as Heligoland, Fair Isle, and Utsira are havens for wind-blown strays. Nantucket, however, appears to have little in common

with these islands, unless it is a fairly high percentage of birds well out of their normal range.

That this preliminary report contains as much information as it does is due, in good measure, to the fine co-operation of others. In expressing our thanks to them, we wish especially to acknowledge the help of Mrs. Clinton Andrews (formerly Miss Edith V. Folger). To Clinton Andrews we owe thanks for much information on the occurrence of land birds at sea off Nantucket. Mr. and Mrs. Philip Heywood have assisted greatly with information on migration at Great Point and observations at the Mothballs. Others who have helped on Nantucket and to whom we owe thanks are Davis Crompton, John Kieran, Miss Dorothy Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Campbell, Robert Smart, Miss Emily Goode, and Miss Frances Weston. The Nantucket Weather Station has always most courteously provided us with information. For information on migration and the occurrence of certain species in Nova Scotia we are indebted to Robie W. Tufts and Harrison F. Lewis. For recoveries of birds banded on Martha's Vineyard we are indebted to Mr. and Mrs. John A. Gillespie. For his keen interest in our study, his encouragement and helpful advice, we are greatly indebted to Aaron M. Bagge.

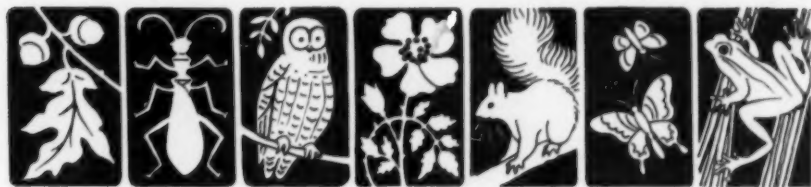
NOTE: Readers who wish to do research of their own on coastal migration would do well to consult recent issues of *British Birds* and *The Ibis*. The April, 1953 issue of *The Ibis* is a gold mine of information. Very helpful, too, are the summaries and reviews in *Bird-Banding*. Students in the northeast will want to consult *Fall Bird Migration on the Gaspé Peninsula*, by Stanley C. Ball, Peabody Museum, Yale University, Bull. 7. Other local studies are *The Birds of Nantucket*, by Ludlow Griscom and Edith V. Folger; *Bird Studies at Old Cape May*, by Witmer Stone; and an unpublished manuscript in possession of the National Audubon Society on migration at Cape Charles, by William J. Rusling. For migration in the region of the Gulf of Mexico, readers should consult papers by George H. Lowery and George G. Williams in *The Auk* and *The Wilson's Bulletin*. And, finally, for a broad understanding of nocturnal migration, readers should by all means consult *A Quantitative Study of the Nocturnal Migration of Birds*, by George H. Lowery, University of Kansas Publications.

	1950 Mothballs	1951 Great Point	1951 Madaket	1951 Mothballs	1952 Mothballs	1953 Mothballs	1954 Mothballs	
				Aug. 13 Aug. 22, THRU 27	Sept. 5 THRU Sept. 27	Aug. 7 THRU Aug. 29	Aug. 10 THRU Aug. 23, 26, 27, 30	Total
	Sept. 3, 4, 5 Oct. 15	Sept. 5	5, 6, 7, 8	14		Sept. 1 THRU Sept. 15	Sept. 2-6	
Black-crn. Night Heron						2		2
Sharp-shinned Hawk					1	2		3
Red-tailed Hawk					1			1
Marsh Hawk				8	4	9	1	22
Pigeon Hawk				1	4	1		6
Sparrow Hawk			12	7	6	2		27
Killdeer							3	3
Upland Sandpiper						1		1
Mourning Dove			7	8	6	7		28
Yellow-billed Cuckoo					1	1	1	3
Black-billed Cuckoo			3	4	2	8	1	18
Short-eared Owl				7				7
Chimney Swift				7				7

	1950	1951	1951	1952	1953	1954	
	Mothballs	Great Point	Madaket	Mothballs	Mothballs	Mothballs	
					Aug. 7	Aug. 16	
					THRU	THRU	
			Aug. 13		Aug. 29	Aug. 25, 26,	
			Aug. 22, 27	Sept. 11	Sept. 1	27, 30	
	Sept. 3, 4, 5	Sept. 2, 3, 5	Oct. 13,	THRU	THRU	THRU	Total
	Oct. 15	5, 6, 7, 8	14	Sept. 27	Sept. 15	Sept. 2-6	
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird		1			1		2
Belted Kingfisher				17	9		26
Yellow-shafted Flicker	15		12	2	38	6	112
Hairy Woodpecker						1	1
Downy Woodpecker			1		1	3	5
Eastern Kingbird			9	37	1	28	92
Western Kingbird				2	1	1	5
Crested Flycatcher			1				1
Eastern Phoebe					1	1	2
Unidentified Empidonax	1		3	7	16	34	81
Yellow-b'd Flycatcher	1					4	5
Least Flycatcher	1			2	1		4
Eastern Wood Pewee			6	5	6	3	21
Olive-sided Flycatcher					1		1
Horned Lark				5		2	7
Bank Swallow					1	1	2
Barn Swallow					11		11
American Crow				3	5	28	42
Black-capped Chickadee			31				31
White-br. Nuthatch						1	1
Red-br. Nuthatch	1		7	27	7	42	85
Brown Creeper				5			5
House Wren					1	2	3
Winter Wren	1						1
Short-b. Marsh Wren					1		1
Catbird	2		26	4	6	1	39
Brown Thrasher			1		6	2	9
American Robin			146	5	4		155
Wood Thrush						1	1
Hermit Thrush	2						2
Olive-backed Thrush	1			1	2	4	8
Gray-checked Thrush		1		1			4
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher					1		1
Golden-cr. Kinglet	45						45
Ruby-cr. Kinglet			1	2	12		15
Water Pipit					13		13
Cedar Waxwing	20	35	14	5	40	101	224
Loggerhead Shrike			2				2
Common Starling			11	1			12
Yellow-thr. Vireo				3	1		5
Solitary Vireo					1		1
Red-eyed Vireo			1	4	4	6	16
Philadelphia Vireo	1			1	2	3	13
Black and Wh. Warbler	13		2	6	11	73	139
Prothonotary Warbler				2	1	1	4
Blue-winged Warbler	2		1	3	3	5	14
Tennessee Warbler				2		2	5
Orange-cr. Warbler					2		2
Nashville Warbler				5	8	26	49
Parula Warbler				5	9	3	17
Yellow Warbler	8		5	20	7	30	110
Magnolia Warbler	6		5	11	14	12	50
Cape May Warbler	15		17	38	120	99	316
Blk-thr. Blue Warbler	2	2		1	5	15	3
Myrtle Warbler	550			29	50	15	659
Blk-thr. Green Warbler	6	1		2	7	15	1
Blackburnian Warbler			1	8	8	1	32
							18

	1950	1951	1951	1952	1953	1954		
	Mothballs	Great Point	Nadaket	Mothballs	Mothballs	Mothballs	Mothballs	
				Aug. 13	Aug. 7	Aug. 7	Aug. 16	
				THRU	THRU	THRU	THRU	
			Aug. 22, 27	Sept. 11	Aug. 29	Aug. 23, 26, 30		
	Sept. 3, 4, 5	Sept. 5	Sept. 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8	Sept. 13, 14	Sept. 5	Sept. 1	Sept. 27, 30	
	Oct. 15	Sept. 5	5, 6, 7, 8	14	Sept. 27	Sept. 15	Sept. 2-6	
							Total	
Chestnut-sided Warbler				4	4	6	2	16
Bay-br. Warbler	9		17	49	56	90	58	279
Black-poll Warbler			5	15	105	16	4	145
Pine Warbler	26			18	64	11	3	122
Prairie Warbler	9	1	2	13	38	22	8	83
Western Palm Warbler				20	95	8	1	124
Yellow Palm Warbler				2	1		2	5
Oven-bird		1		1	2	5		9
Northern Water-Thrush			2	2		29	5	38
Louisiana Water-Thrush				1	1	4		6
Connecticut Warbler						1		1
Mourning Warbler		1						1
Common Yellow-throat			13	24	4	72	98	211
Yellow-breasted Chat	1					1	1	3
Hooded Warbler						7	5	12
Black-capped Warbler	1			4	3	17	7	32
Canada Warbler	1		3	8		6	7	25
American Redstart	10	2	3	34	73	100	44	266
House Sparrow				6				6
Bobolink		8		6		32		46
Red-wing Blackbird			65			18		83
Baltimore Oriole	7	3	8	4	20	23	15	80
Purple Grackle			115					115
Brown-headed Cowbird							3	3
Rose-breasted Grosbeak						1		1
Dickcissel						1		1
Purple Finch			10	20	7			37
Eastern Towhee			18		3	1		22
Savannah Sparrow				193	260	111	63	627
Grasshopper Sparrow				2		4	1	7
Sharp-tailed Sparrow				1				1
Seaside Sparrow		1						1
Vesper Sparrow				4		3		7
Lark Sparrow	2			2	1			5
Slate-colored Junco	10							10
White-throated Sparrow				25	2	1		28
Song Sparrow				80	46	300	139	565

Table I. A list of species seen in census areas. This table includes only birds in the census areas, or feeding over them. Poorly reflected in these counts are the large flocks of migrating Tree Swallows, Horned Larks, Robins, Cedar Waxwings, Starlings, Cowbirds, Red-wings, and Grackles which pass through by the hundreds on active days every fall. Not enough counts were made in October to give a true picture of the number of such late migrants as the kinglets, the Myrtle Warbler, and the White-throated Sparrow. Daily counts averaged about 1½ hours in duration at any one census area, and were made by one or two, sometimes more, observers.



EDUCATION NOTES

Everywhere the cycle of the seasons brings with it a cycle of activity. The Massachusetts Audubon Society is no exception to this general rule.

The summer program is over, hazards survived, reports submitted, recommendations made (verbally, at least) in anticipation of next year's undertakings. If time were hanging heavy on our hands, we might now indulge in reminiscing, criticizing, or congratulating ourselves on past accomplishments. However, spare time is not a commodity freely dispensed in our organization, and we are now well launched on the major phase of the Audubon educational program, the school classes.

Could you, during October, have been a map on the wall, or, better still, one of the 14,000 pupils in the 451 classrooms regularly visited by an Audubon teacher, you would certainly have sensed the radiated enthusiasm for gaining and sharing knowledge which characterizes these classes.

The underlying philosophy of our teaching, embraced in the motto "Learn to enjoy, not to destroy," may be transmitted by many methods. A few of the possibilities employed are active participation in lively discussions, nature games, observation of materials brought to class, and field trips.

Many of our Audubon teachers introduce the year's work by stressing the use of all the senses in observing and recognizing natural history findings. The interpretation of these findings is related to the interdependence of all life and its environment. At the first meeting, intimate acquaintance with the fragrance of tansy or sweet fern, the texture of mullein or snake scales, the flavor of black birch or sour grass, or a veritable treasure chest of natural objects might easily be the order of the day.

Subsequent meetings are as varied as the personalities of the twenty-four members of the teaching staff and the 112 local areas in which they teach. The lessons are planned according to season, in order to take full advantage of the immediate offerings of the outdoor world, at the same time carefully considering the needs of the individual classes.

The ability of Audubon teachers to share experiences, guide deftly, and present facts and materials interestingly, accurately, and forcibly is evidenced by the immediate enthusiastic response of the boys and girls to the Audubon Course. We therefore enter the new year with renewed zeal to achieve our major goal: To arouse and stimulate interest in the natural world which will develop a sense of the kinship of all living things and a desire to maintain similar opportunities for those who follow us.

FRANCES SHERBURNE

Enjoy the Outdoors in November

BY RICHARD HEADSTROM

Look among the leaves at the base of a tree for hibernating ladybird beetles. These insects spend the winter in such places by the hundreds and frequently by the thousands.

If you live near the coast, observe how the seaside goldenrod, still in flower, relieves the bleak and barren shore line.

Cedar Waxwings find the bright red berries of the mountain ash much to their liking. Note what other birds feed on them.

Examine the branches of the red cedar and arborvitae for the silken sacs of the bagworm.

Note if the evening primrose is in flower in fields, along the wayside, and in waste places. It often blossoms at this late date in the hope that a still-active sphinx moth may visit it.

Visit the seabeach for migrating Sanderlings and Red-backed Sandpipers. Some of them will spend the winter in Massachusetts.

Examine the frayed heads of cattails for wintering larvae of the cattail moth.

Look for the bright red aromatic berries of the wintergreen, or checker-berry. The Ruffed Grouse is very fond of them.

By the middle of the month most of the herons will have left for the South. If you chance to know where they have been nesting, visit such places and note if any still remain.

Look for the webs of the house spider in the attic or cellar. They are often built in a protected window corner. Note the number of egg sacs, which are about the size of an orange seed and which are hung here and there upon the threads of the web.

In sheltered places look for the shepherd's purse. This relative of the garden alyssum and candytuft may be found blossoming at almost any time of the year.

Watch for the appearance of Pine Grosbeaks.

Note the light golden-yellow flowers of the fall dandelion still blossoming in fields and along roadsides. The fall dandelion is not a true dandelion, nor does it flower exclusively in autumn; it may be seen in blossom as early as June.

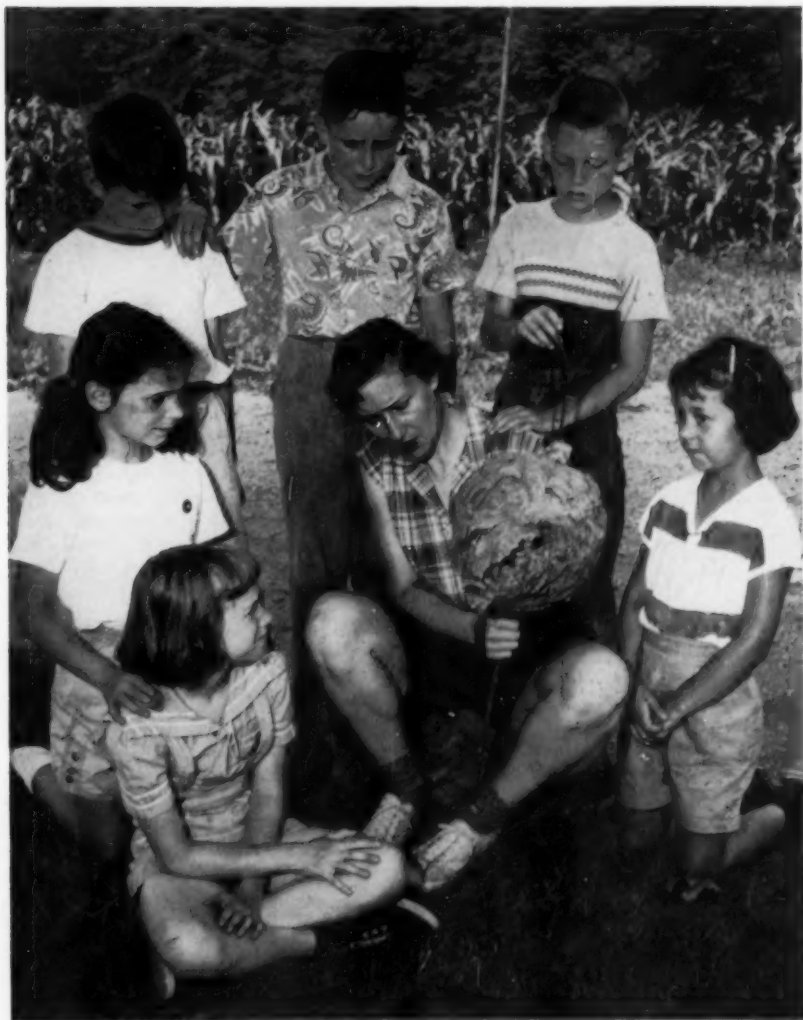
Examine a near-by brook for still-active colonies of fresh-water sponges.

Observe that the woods have a darker tone than in summer. Except for stands of pine and hemlocks, there is an absence of green; instead, browns and purples mingle with pleasing effect.

Keep a neighboring field or pasture under observation for any late migrating Palm Warblers. Most of these birds have gone south by now, but occasionally a few stragglers may be seen in November.

Turn over logs and stones and note if Red-backed Salamanders are still active.

In pinewoods look for the smoky hygrophorus. If you like mushrooms, this is said to be of excellent flavor. But don't let the slime with which it is covered deter you; it can easily be removed.



SPRINGFIELD REPUBLICAN

Shirley Howard and Day Campers discuss a hornet's nest.

Day Camps for Education

Day camps play a vital part in the Audubon education program. To five of our wildlife sanctuaries each summer come boys and girls from near-by towns. Mornings are spent with leaders exploring meadow and stream, pond and forest. Afternoons are devoted to drawing upon their discoveries afield for a directed study and crafts period, during which natural living things are related to the world of art and useful design as well as to each other. Children

enjoy a picnic lunch brought from home and rest in the shade afterward, spending as much time as possible outdoors. At the end of each two-week session, an informal exhibition acquaints parents and friends with the aims of the Audubon teacher who presents a natural science program right around the year.

In charge of Arcadia's day camp, Miss Shirley Howard, who through the school year teaches the Audubon school course in Essex County, showed this fine specimen of a hornet's nest to her Connecticut Valley campers. At Moose Hill, Pleasant Valley, Ipswich River, and Cook's Canyon, similar day camps bring to fortunate young people the chance to learn about the wonders of the outdoor world while they taste the joys of life in the open.

Rare Bird Appears on Cape Cod



On September 1, I was three miles down North Beach in East Orleans. Fog, intermittent rain, and clouds had darkened my hopes of a good day. I was hiking in the salt marshes that stretch to the shores of Pleasant Bay when I noticed something that stopped me short. A few yards ahead of me stood a large bird, slightly shorter but bulkier than the Great Blue Herons with which it was associated. It was almost totally gray, except for its brilliant red forehead. A moment later it lifted itself into the air with a clear bugling that echoed over the vast marsh.

Realizing that this bird was a Sandhill Crane wandering from its usual range in the Midwest or Southeast, I knew it was a good discovery. I heard that an internationally known ornithologist lived in the near-by town of Chatham, and I hastened to tell him the news.

After passing Ludlow Griscom's third degree questioning about the crane, all I had to do to prove the find was to produce the bird. Four hours after I had left the bird, we arrived at the spot where first I had sighted it. A moment later the bird was spotted, and Mr. Griscom agreed that I had "delivered the bacon." Mr. Griscom also said the crane was more likely a wanderer from Florida because of the date it was found and the relation of this date to earlier hurricanes. Many people saw the wary bird in the weeks that followed and observed that the upper parts were washed with brown, suggesting an intermediate stage of immaturity. This was apparently the second record of this species for Massachusetts, the first being two birds sighted in Westfield during a week in April, 1935.

Marlborough, Connecticut

PETER M. ISLEIB

Birds Round the World on Postage Stamps

No. 6. Storks of the Family Ciconiidae

By C. RUSSELL MASON



The only stork found in North America is the Wood Ibis, *Mycteria americana*, which ranges normally from southern United States south to Argentina and Peru. Occasionally it wanders northward and has occurred in Massachusetts; one bird made an extended stay at Rockport during the summer of 1955.

Our native Wood Ibis is a large white bird, three to four feet in length, with dark, naked, wattled head, extensive black areas in the wings, and a black tail. It is easily recognized on the wing as it alternately soars and flaps with neck outstretched. The bill is long, thick at its base, and decurved. It likes low, wet country, where it nests in colonies in giant cypress or lower mangrove or willow. Its diet includes a variety of animal life, from large insects to frogs, snakes, and fish.

This American stork has not been represented on postage stamps, but the stork that most closely resembles it, *Ibis ibis*, which also goes by the common name of Wood Ibis is shown beautifully on an airmail stamp of Spanish Morocco (Scott's No. C2), issued in 1938, which was later surcharged for use in Cape Juby (C2). This bird is also white with black in wings and a black tail, but it has a bare red head, yellow bill, pink feet and legs, and parts of its wings, including the under coverts, flushed with rose. It is found in Africa, from Senegambia and the Sudan to South Africa, and in Madagascar, in the shallow waters about the beds of streams and lakes. It nests in colonies in trees or bushes, sometimes within the walls of native towns, or on ledges of cliffs, and it hunts much the same type of food as its American relative.

The White Stork, *Ciconia ciconia*, is a species familiar to the general public, for, although it feeds in marshes, it may nest on roofs of houses, on chimney's or haystacks, or in trees. The entire plumage is white, except for black wing quills, primary coverts, and scapulars. It has been represented on several postage stamps. In stylized form, it appears on three airmails of French Morocco (C20, C21, and C25), issued in 1939-40, and also on CB9 and CB19, issued in 1928-29, these two showing the storks nesting on an old wall. In 1949 Algeria produced two airmails of attractive design with storks flying over a mosque (C8, C10), and in 1952 Hungary included this species on one of a series of triangular stamps illustrating native birds, (C97). The White Stork is a summer visitor to western Europe but breeds in central Europe, from the Baltic to the Mediterranean; in northwest Africa; and in western Asia; and it winters mainly in central and southern Africa. Other races of the species are found in eastern Asia and Japan, but in the latter the stork is practically extirpated. The Japanese race, *C. c. boyciana*, is probably the stork shown in flight above the mast of the Imperial Flagship on two 1940 stamps of Manchukuo. The bill, feet, and legs of this stork are red. It is mainly

an inland bird, seldom appearing along the coast, and its movements are erratic, dependent on the food supply. It is said that a flock will follow locust swarms for days. Like all storks, it has a sedate walk, and during courtship it indulges in a loud and rhythmic bill clattering, which may be continued as a nest welcoming ceremony. The North American bird which it most resembles in appearance is the White Ibis of our southeastern States.

The Marabou Stork, *Leptoptilos crumeniferus*, found in Africa, from Senegal and the Sudan to Orange River, is illustrated on a 1939 semipostal stamp of Belgian Congo (B27) with vultures surrounding a mammal carcass. This stork is largely a scavenger, feeding on carrion, although it also consumes locusts and fish, termites and snakes. Bannerman, in writing of this stork, says of its appearance: "One has the illusion of a very old, disgruntled gentleman . . . completely fed up with the world." The Congo stamp is one of a set issued to raise funds for the Leopoldville Zoological Gardens. These stamps have been popular and rather scarce philatelic items, so the day is well remembered when friends returning on furlough from Congo brought the set as a gift for the author's steadily increasing "bird" collection.

In 1951 the Portuguese colony of Angola, in issuing a series depicting twenty-four species of native birds, included one picturing the Openbill, *Anastomus lamelligerus*, (No. 339). This small black stork gets its name from the strange open bill, the upper and lower parts of which touch only at the base and tip, apparently designed for the extracting of mollusks and snails from their shells. The Openbill frequents mainly fresh-water marshes, but it may also be found on coastal mud flats. It is generally distributed over two thirds of southern Africa to the Zambesi River, except for forested regions.

Another stork, of the family Balaenicipitidae, should also be mentioned here, since it is shown on two stamps of Sudan of the year 1951 (Nos. 99 and O 45). It is the Whale-headed Stork, or Shoebill, *Balaeniceps rex*, a solitary and largely silent bird, hiding in the papyrus by day and feeding in the evening on fish, frogs, and small mammals. It has a large shoe-shaped bill, nearly as broad as it is long and hooked at the tip, and a crest of short feathers curling forward, which, together, give the bird a most peculiar appearance. Its range is restricted to southern Sudan and adjacent parts of Uganda and Belgian Congo.

One Dollar Will Help

The Massachusetts Audubon Society appreciates the fine support that has been given by members in response to the annual spring appeal for extra funds for education and sanctuary work and to the suggestion of a dollar gift in the October follow-up. It is felt, however, that some may hesitate to send in an amount as little as one dollar, thinking, What can such a small amount accomplish? When it is considered that if every one of our members sent in just one dollar, the total receipts would be more than \$7000 — enough to carry one sanctuary through a year's program — the worth of many such dollar gifts may be seen. And think of the inspiration for continued and increasing work on the part of the Society in feeling that everyone is contributing, even a small amount! As the daughter of a friend, and a member of the Society, expressed it, "I like the Audubon Society and its work, and I want to send them a dollar out of my allowance."



SANCTUARY NEWS

After the heat of the summer the sanctuary directors welcomed the lively air of September, and with it the changing colors of leaf and flower. "The first of the red maples, ashes, and sassafras are taking on good color," wrote Albert Bussewitz, "and since we were spared any hurricane winds it looks as if the foliage display will be one of the best." The slopes of the Ipswich River hillside were colorful with wild grapes, goldenrod, asters, and crabapples. Nuts and berries abounded. The buckthorn, viburnums, and dogwoods at Pleasant Valley were heavy with berries, and the kinnikinnik was filled with White-throats feeding in migration. Large flocks of Cedar Waxwings enjoyed the black cherries.

Arcadia's Crescent Bank, planted only last spring, showed its potential by producing two White-crowns and a Lincoln's Sparrow, as well as providing cover for many Savannahs and a few Vespers from the near-by cornfield. At Cook's Canyon, David Miner observed that the fruit on the viburnum and cornus shrubs, buckthorns, paniced dogwoods and multiflora rose created good bird feeding. Both the flowering dogwoods and the introduced cornelian cherry at Moose Hill were heavily laden with bright scarlet berries, and sizable flocks of Robins, Blue Jays, and Grackles added them to their autumnal menus.

"The beach plums on the south field of the Sanctuary had the best 'throw' in years," wrote Elmer Foye. "The day we picked we found that foxes had pulled the fruit from the lower branches. The chinquapins bore a heavy crop, and as the Gray Squirrels are scarce we managed to glean many of these sweet, chestnutlike nuts for our own delight."

Fortunately, the heavy rains of late August did little damage to Cook's Canyon. A few red maples growing along the brook were uprooted and deposited at the upper end of the canyon, but much of the deposit of trunks and branches at the foot of the falls was swept on down the gorge. The bank homes of the Muskrats living in the pond were covered with a layer of silt, but recent signs indicate that the Muskrats are busy re-digging their old tunnels.

Alvah Sanborn wrote that the Pleasant Valley Beavers are now living on both sides of the road. There is little cutting to be seen, and the main pond is partly empty. It is hoped that the Beavers will move back into this pond in the spring, as they so often have done. In the meantime, tracks of Beavers, Raccoons, Deer, Muskrats, Minks, and the various herons are found in the mud. Plaster casts have been made for use in school classes.

Praying Mantids were present at Moose Hill in unusually large numbers, although not large enough, unfortunately, to cope with the heavy population of mosquitoes that followed the August floods. These mosquitoes menaced most of the sanctuaries this fall.

Migrating warblers were generally reported. Myrtles and Black-throated Blues proved the most common species at Cook's Canyon. Magnolias and Cape Mays feasted at Pleasant Valley. Black-polls were frequently spotted

during the latter part of the month at Moose Hill, as were Cape Mays. Occasional flocks of Bluebirds were about, and increasing numbers of Purple Finches and Chickadees started coming to feeders.

Arcadia Marsh was visited on the 25th by Davis Crompton, Samuel A. Eliot, Jr. and Ray Johnston. They recorded, besides one Greater Yellow-legs and a Short-billed Marsh Wren, two Shovellers, twenty-five Mallards, five Pintails, one Green-winged Teal, and two hundred Black Ducks. Three Baldpates were present on the 23rd, and several Blue-winged Teal earlier in the month.

The Allen Bird Club of Springfield, and the Forbush Bird Club of Worcester visited Arcadia during the period when hawk flights were observable from Mt. Tom. The Forbush Club logged fifteen Broadwings while at Arcadia on a day when the memorial shrub borders were alive with migrants, including two hundred Cedar Waxwings.

Scarlet Tanagers, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and the ubiquitous Catbirds have been numerous this month at Pleasant Valley, and the Pileated Woodpecker has been heard from the cottage. On September 4 an Osprey was seen over the Rockery Pond at Ipswich River, and on the 13th a Yellow-billed Cuckoo. White-throats flocked back to the Sanctuary on the 23rd, and Juncos the day after.

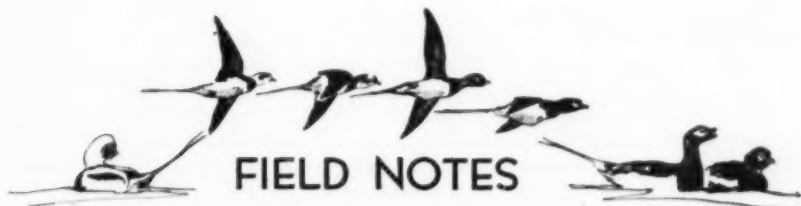
For twenty-six days after the heavy rains, not a Ruby-throat was seen at the Cook's Canyon hummingbird planting. Then, two days before the frost, one appeared. The planting has attracted insects as well as birds. Bees nested in the ground along the cedar rail fence. Monarch butterflies fed frequently on the *Buddleia alternifolia*. The Miners banded ten of them.

During September the sanctuary directors were busy with many activities outside their own boundaries. Edwin Mason spoke about Arcadia and the work of the Massachusetts Audubon Society to three neighboring groups: the Plainfield Grange, Easthampton Episcopal Men's Club, and the Betty Allen Chapter of the D. A. R. in Northampton. Albert Bussewitz addressed the Walpole Rotary and the Walpole Garden Club. Classes in the schools of Walpole, Foxboro, and Sharon are being reached by the Audubon conservation and natural science courses. In the Connecticut Valley, three new classes have been added. Mrs. Pearle B. Care and Mrs. Anne F. Clarridge began teaching their first topic the last week of the month.

The sanctuaries continued to have many visitors. The natural history section of the Appalachian Mountain Club was at Moose Hill on the 24th. Two groups of girl scouts, a youth fellowship from an Athol church, and a group of Petersham school children explored Cook's Canyon. And on the 24th, at Pleasant Valley, the annual covered dish supper was held, with about sixty people enjoying the repast, the fire in the barn fireplace, and Max Sauter, the speaker.

"On Sundays at Ipswich River," wrote Elmer Foye, contributing a fine pastoral picture, "our record player drew visitors to sit on the low wall in front of the house. The birds, too, were intrigued with the music; a Flicker was particularly enthusiastic about a Mozart sonata and continually uttered his loud musical note. A Phoebe persistently punctuated with his *fee-bee*. Goldfinches fluttered about the thistledown. Bluebirds warbled and splashed in the bird bath in time with the music and added enjoyment for the sedentary and happy bird watchers."

M. B. S.



BY RUTH P. EMERY

September was sunny, with 16 clear days against a normal of 11. One of the nicest things about the month was the temperature. In Boston the maximum was 90° on the 18th, and the minimum 43° on the 23rd. Although the temperature did not drop to freezing in Boston, it did reach that level on the 14th in northern New England and in the Berkshires. Rain fell on ten days, but on three of the ten it was just a trace, and on most of the others it was almost negligible. Hurricane Ione came in to the coast at the Carolinas on September 18, and southern New England was alerted. However, the next day the hurricane swept northeastward, away from New England, and all that Boston received was a brief thunderstorm, the only one of the month. Tuna fish were still present in numbers off Monomoy, and pelagic birds were attracted by the bait the fish stirred up from the deep water. Those who were fortunate enough to get to sea the early part of the month saw numbers of GREATER SHEARWATERS, a few SOOTY and CORY'S SHEARWATERS, all three JAEGERs, WILSON'S PETRELS and NORTHERN PHALAROPES. A LEACH'S PETREL was seen from Nauset shore, September 25, after a northeast gale. RED and NORTHERN PHALAROPES were spinning on the water, and JAEGERs and SHEARWATERS were all seen in flight and on the water. A BRIDLED TERN was also seen at that time, in flight and at rest on a lobster float. A few immature GANNETS were observed during the month.

AMERICAN EGRETS were reported from Winthrop and Watch Hill, R. I.; SNOWY EGRETS were seen at Nauset, Nantucket, and Watch Hill, R. I., and a YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON was noted at Monomoy. On September 22, Winthrop Harrington and his father observed an immature BLUE GOOSE feeding on grain in the Parker River Refuge, Plum Island.

Fresh-water ducks arrived early in the month. Three GADWALLS were present at Watch Hill, R. I., September 17, and one was seen at Concord on September 25. BALDPATE, PINTAIL, and GREEN-WINGED TEAL were present in surprising numbers in the Connecticut Valley on September 14. Hundreds of BALDPATE and BLUE-WINGED TEAL were seen in the Sudbury Valley on September 25. Only a few WOOD DUCKS and HOODED MERGANSERS were reported. SHOVELLER DUCKS were noted at Plum Island and in the Sudbury Valley.

No reports of hawk flights have been received.

The bird of the month is without doubt the SANDHILL CRANE, first spotted and identified by Peter Isleib at North Beach, Chatham, September 1. This is the second record for Massachusetts. Many people enjoyed watching the immature bird feeding in the marsh, and the last date reported was September 13.

Shore bird numbers were away down and the birds left early. As many as 40 KILLDEERS were observed in North Haven, Maine, and 55 were seen in Concord, September 23. GOLDEN PLOVERS were reported from several places, and 24 were present in Cambridge, September 1; 25 HUDSONIAN CURLEWS at Monomoy, September 5; UPLAND PLOVERS were reported from Squantum and Nantucket, September 18; both EASTERN and WESTERN WILLETS were seen together at Monomoy; BAIRD'S SANDPIPERS were reported from Monomoy; at Wayland 35 STILT SANDPIPERS were seen; BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPERS were reported from Newburyport, Monomoy, and Nantucket through September 18; both MARBLED and HUDSONIAN GODWITS were present at Newburyport and Monomoy; independent observations of an immature REEVE at Nauset on September 6 and 9 were made by Jessie H. Mason and Catherine Reed.

An AVOCET was observed at Westport, September 17, by William R. Bullard, Jr., who watched it for a long time, then flushed it, and when he left it was still feeding in the marsh. The next day, September 18, an AVOCET was spotted by Barry Ulman at New Haven Harbor, near City Point, Connecticut. Although at one time this species bred eastward to the Atlantic coast, it is extremely rare here at present.

FORSTER'S TERNS were scarce until September 16, when C. Russell Mason saw one at Nauset, then three were noted there on September 18. A few more were reported before the end of the month. On September 4 a ROYAL TERN was seen at Acoaxet (Oakes). Good numbers of ROSEATE TERNS were seen throughout the month, and there was an excellent flight of BLACK TERNS. A CASPIAN TERN was seen at sea off Monomoy, September 6. BLACK SKIMMERS were reported from Squantum, Nauset, Chatham, and New Haven Harbor, Conn.

The summering RAZOR-BILLED AUK at Cuttyhunk was photographed by August Belmont. Seven BLACK GUILLEMOTS were seen at Monomoy, September 17, three showing signs of change to winter plumage.

Very few CUCKOOS have been seen; BARN OWLS were reported from Lexington and West Tisbury; on September 25, Mr. Griscom and party heard a chorus of LONG-EARED OWLS at Brewster and saw a SAW-WHET OWL on the road; WHIP-POOR-WILLS were still calling, September 14; NIGHT-HAWKS were seen migrating, and a resident bird in Boston was last heard on September 5.

There were marked "waves" of land bird migrants on September 1, 13, 21, and 22. An adult RED-HEADED WOODPECKER was noted at Nantucket, September 16, and the next day one was seen about four miles from where the first bird was observed. YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKERS were migrating, September 12 on; five reports of ARKANSAS KINGBIRDS; 1000 TREE SWALLOWS noted at Plum Island, September 5; BLUE JAYS were migrating steadily; reports of a HOUSE WREN at Nantucket, September 16, CAROLINA WRENS at East Orleans and Martha's Vineyard, and a WINTER WREN at Marblehead Sanctuary, September 5, and again, September 26. The Harbor Master at Chatham tells us that on September 21 a NIGHTHAWK was seen at sea, a CATBIRD went aboard the Pollock Rip Lightship, and a JUNCO landed on his boat and spent the day there, feeding on crumbs from the fishermen's lunches. A partial albino Robin was seen with a flock of ROBINS in Portsmouth, N. H. There was a big flight of THRUSHES on September 22, and on Monomoy, alone, at least 50 OLIVE-BACKED and GRAY-CHEEKED

were seen; BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHERS were observed at several places, and toward the end of the month flocks of PIPITS were first noted. MIGRANT SHRIKES were reported from five different places. Good numbers of PHILADELPHIA VIREOS were reported. There was an interesting variety of warblers for the month, including a PROTHONOTARY WARBLER at Chappaquiddick (Martha's Vineyard); WORM-EATING WARBLERS banded at Nantucket and Rockport; BLUE-WINGED WARBLERS at Nahant and Manomet; 10 ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLERS; a heavy flight of BAY-BREASTED and CAPE MAY WARBLERS; several CONNECTICUT WARBLERS; and at Scituate a MOURNING WARBLER; 4 YELLOW-BREASTED CHATS were banded at Nantucket, September 3-6, where it is considered a rare bird; and HOODED WARBLERS were reported at Monomoy, Nahant, and Wellesley.

A YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD was collected at Chatham, September 12. On September 14 a WESTERN TANAGER was observed in Cohasset, and 2 SUMMER TANAGERS were present at Nahant, September 26. A BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK was seen and heard singing in Marblehead Neck Sanctuary, September 1-5; DICKCISSELS were reported from many places.

It has been reported that it is a poor cone year at North Haven, Maine, so we hope for a good flight of WINTER FINCHES. A RED CROSSBILL was seen at Monomoy, September 24; 8 LARK SPARROWS were reported; there were good numbers of JUNCOS by September 21; 7 TREE SPARROWS were noted at Hampstead, N. H., September 17; the first WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW was observed at Sunapee, N. H., September 11; 13 LINCOLN'S SPARROWS were reported; and on September 23 a LAPLAND LONGSPUR was seen at Concord.

Our Cape Cod Campout, September 9-11, was well attended this year. Although we did not have a hurricane to provide southern birds, we did have an interesting list at the end of the second day. The total of 136 species included SHEARWATERS, PHALAROPES, JAEGERs, the SANDHILL CRANE, BLACK TERNS, a BLACK SKIMMER, ARKANSAS KINGBIRDS, a MIGRANT SHRIKE, a YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT, and a LARK SPARROW.

A banding project was conducted at Rockport, Plum Island, and Nantucket the latter part of August and during September. Nets were set up and many WARBLERS, as well as large numbers of CATBIRDS and THRUSHES, were banded, and at Rockport a SCREECH OWL was found in the net one day.

Date of Annual Meeting Announced

Because of the difficulty of securing Hayden Hall at Boston University on the fourth Saturday of January for our Annual Meeting, it has been necessary to postpone the date of meeting to Saturday, February 11, from 2:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. Full program will be printed in the January *Bulletin*.

New Staff Member



JOHN C. BELDING joined the Audubon staff in October to conduct classes in Berkshire County and to assist Director Alvah Sanborn at Pleasant Valley Sanctuary. He brings to the work the enthusiasm of an inherent interest in wildlife and natural resources. A native of Northampton, he received the B.S. degree from the University of Massachusetts in 1953, studying there such courses as ornithology, entomology, and forestry. Opportunity to apply the principles of the last-named followed shortly when he took a position as lookout fireman with the Federal Forest Service in the Rockies of Montana. More recently he has been active in farming and forestry in his association with the Gould Farm at Great Barrington. Mr. Belding and

his wife, Patricia, and their eight-months-old daughter Janet, will occupy the farm cottage adjoining the sanctuary. Mrs. Belding, an English major while a student at the University of Massachusetts, shares her husband's devotion to wildlife.

Invitation to Children's Nature Hours

The Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield invites members and friends of the Society to participate in the annual Saturday Morning Nature Hours. The thirteenth season opened October 1, and free programs are being held each Saturday at 10:15 A.M. through December 3. At the first program Walt Disney's "Water Birds" was shown. Later this year the two-hundredth program will be celebrated. All Nature Hours are open to boys and girls from the fourth through the ninth grades and are sponsored by the Berkshire Museum and the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

Speed the Bulletin

In order to have the *Bulletin* in the hands of members as nearly as possible on the first day of the month, dead line dates for copy have been advanced and the October issue left the Abington Post Office on September 29. *Bulletins* were delivered to Newton homes on October 1, and in Jamaica Plain and Rockport on October 3. Dates in some other towns were later. We anticipate that the November *Bulletin* will be mailed on October 28. Will you help us to determine the best time of mailing and to check on speed of deliveries by dropping a post card to Audubon House, 155 Newbury Street, Boston 16, advising the date when the November *Bulletin* reaches you? Thank you very much.

In Memoriam

In the death of Elliott Bradford Church, September 11, 1955, the Massachusetts Audubon Society has lost a wise counselor and loyal friend. From his election to the Board in 1926, he was most regular in his attendance, and for many years he served ably on the Executive Committee of the Board. He was largely responsible for installing the budget system, and, as chairman of the Auditing Committee, he, with the late Roger Ernst (also a member of that important committee), watched our income and expense with meticulous care. His judgments were well considered and well expressed. There were also his pleasant accounts of birding trips on the shores of Vineyard Sound with his daughter, Mrs. Benjamin M. Shaub, for several years a member of the Arcadia Sanctuary Advisory Committee. He will be greatly missed.

New Staff Members

WILLIAM L. WYLIE and JOYCE L. WYLIE, of Greenwich, Connecticut, joined the staff of the Society in September. With headquarters at Ipswich River Sanctuary, Mr. and Mrs. Wylie will carry on the Audubon teaching program in Essex County, particularly in conducting the conservation courses in the schools of that area. Mr. Wylie comes to us from the National Audubon Society, where he was engaged in educational work at the Audubon Center at Greenwich and also served as leader for some of the Audubon southern tours. He was graduated from the University of West Virginia, School of Forestry, and studied wild-life management at the Graduate School of Syracuse University. He received encouragement in his interests through the Oglebay Institute of Wheeling, West Virginia, where he was a day camp counselor at Camp Robinson Crusoe at Sturbridge, Massachusetts. He particularly enjoys working with children. Mr. Wylie has often visited Cook's Canyon and has observed the Natural Science Workshop and Wildwood Camp programs at the sanctuary. Mrs. Wylie is a graduate of Valparaiso University, Indiana, where she majored in biology, and she later took graduate work in education at John Hopkins University, Baltimore. She taught general science in a junior high school in Baltimore and has had experience in camp work with children in the natural history field. Her hobbies, in addition to bird study, include sketching and earth sciences.



News of Bird Clubs

THE ALLEN BIRD CLUB OF SPRINGFIELD has scheduled two very interesting meetings for their members and friends. On November 15 Percy E. Fellows will show his color film "Beyond the Mississippi," and on December 5 Allan Cruickshank will be on hand with his color film entitled, "River of the Crying Bird." The Club had a most active October, with five field trips, all of which proved very successful.

THE HOFFMANN BIRD CLUB, of Pittsfield, will conduct their Annual Waterfowl Count on Sunday, November 6, at 8:00 A.M. and 1:30 P.M. On November 11, at 8:00 P.M., the club is sponsoring an illustrated lecture by Cleveland Grant, and the week end of November 26-27 is reserved for a shore bird trip to Newburyport and Cape Ann.

On November 13, the SOUTH SHORE BIRD CLUB will conduct an all-day trip to Lakeville, for ducks or anything else to be found. Trip leaves from parking lot in rear of Adams Academy, (Dimock Street) Quincy, at 8:00 A.M. Call Sibley Higginbotham, GRanite 2-8578 if transportation is needed. Bring lunch.

William P. Wharton Receives Award

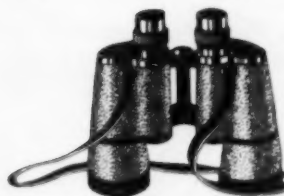
William P. Wharton, of Groton, Massachusetts, an honorary vice-president of the Massachusetts Audubon Society and a former member of its board of directors, also for many years chairman of the Massachusetts Conservation Council, received in October the Distinguished Service Award of the American Forestry Association for meritorious service in the field of General Service.

Mr. Wharton began his activities in the conservation field after his graduation from Harvard University in 1903, when, in managing woodland holdings planted by him on his own farmlands in Groton, his interest in the increase of wildlife, particularly birds, became a major objective of his forestry activities.

Robert N. Hoskins, Chairman of the Awards Committee, had this to say of Mr. Wharton:

"It would be difficult, if not impossible, to find a citizen living today who voluntarily has devoted so much of his personal time, energy, and means to conservation. For almost half a century, this modest, unassuming man with a passion for anonymity has been one of the great anchors to the windward for a dozen or more hardworking conservation groups. Widely-respected as a leader in every branch of organic resource protection and development, the services of this silviculturist, ecologist, and psychologist are distinguished, not only by their diversity and continuity, but as an outstanding example of a private citizen whose approach to conservation has been based solely on the rock of unselfish public interest. To assess this man's strength it is necessary to determine the fabric and aims of the wide variety of strong groups he has supported. These include: The American Bison Society, Massachusetts Audubon Society, Massachusetts Forest and Park Association, The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, National Audubon Society, National Parks Association, The Groton Town Forest, The Save the Redwoods League, and the American Forestry Association. With service to mankind and the world it lives in his guiding principle, this man must be honored as one of those leaders who have given real meaning and purpose to American conservation in the last half century. No man has done more for conservation in his native State of Massachusetts. No man has done more in throwing full support to all phases of the movement nationally."

Congratulations to William P. Wharton for an honor well deserved.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS



An Interesting Sidelight

A valued advertiser unwittingly paid us a compliment recently. He considered the *Bulletin* an especially desirable advertising medium because he was being continually introduced to an entirely new group of readers — our growing membership. So that even our very newest members become an asset to the Society and to the Audubon cause in an undreamed-of way — and in a multitude of other ways, of course, as time goes on. And how shall we evaluate those older members, of whom we have a goodly number, who are always on the alert to acquaint others with the objectives of our expanding program and of the privileges of membership in the Society?

It is a pleasure to welcome the following new members at this time, and to add a warm word of appreciation for the increased support pledged by older members.

Life Members

Beinecke Foundation, Greenwich, Conn.
Bird, Charles Sumner, Walpole

Contributing Members

Brewster, George W. W., Brookline
Camp Tamarac, Becket
Ford, Horace S., Cambridge
*Smith, Mrs. L. M. C., Freeport, Me.

Supporting Members

Barker, Miss Elizabeth G., Salem
Batchelor, Roger P., Palmerton, Pa.
Bohn, Miss Pauline, Jamaica Plain
Bush, Charles W., Hackensack, N. J.
Bush, Mrs. Charles W., Hackensack, N. J.
Chesterton, Mrs. A. Devereaux,
Marblehead

*Cobb, Dr. Stanley, Cambridge
Cooper, Harold Y., Fitchburg
*Dickey, Miss Miriam E., W. Roxbury
*Dowd, Mr. and Mrs. William R., Boston
Febiger, Mrs. William S., Manchester
Fleming, Mrs. Hugh, Winthrop
Johnson, William C., Primos, Pa.
King, Mrs. Mark H., Dorchester
*Lane, Harold E., Needham Hts.
Little, John P., Hampton, N. H.
Mondell, Miss Victoria, Milton
Perkins, John F., Milton
*Peterson, Roger T., Old Lyme, Conn.
Ring, Mrs. R. M., Boston
Struik, Mrs. Ruth, Belmont
True, Mrs. Beth L., Epping, N. H.
*Walsh, Mrs. George, Foxboro
Wilson, Michael, Weston

*Transferred from Active Membership

Active Members

Adams, Miss Kathryn N., Walpole
Boogar, William F., Provincetown
Brigham, Miss Dorcas, Williamsburg
Bursaw, Mrs. Edward J., W. Acton
Calkins, Mrs. Gladys C., Hamden, Conn.
Campbell, Miss Clara E., Revere
Chapin, Dr. Ross E., Arlington
Clark, Mrs. Beatrice B., Arlington
Clements, George N., Yarmouthport
Cole, Mrs. Alfred D., Hingham
Cooke, Mrs. Charles E., Jr., Chelmsford
Crowell, John B., Jr., Cambridge
D'Arcy, Miss Jill, Dover, N. H.
Dowd, Mrs. Anna, Hamden, Conn.
Elwell, Mrs. Robert N., Wayland
Fahs, Theodore, Gloucester
Field, Miss Mary S., Springfield
Flynn, Dr. William F., Milton
Forbes, Mrs. W. Stanton, Chestnut Hill
Gale, Mrs. James E., Lincoln
Gill, Miss Mary L., Indian Lake, N. Y.
Goffinet, Mrs. Alfred J., Walpole
Haffenreffer, J. M., Needham
Haffenreffer, Mrs. Theodore C., Jr.,
Newton Ctr.

Hansen, Mrs. Alfred, S. Acton
Heath, J. Andrew, Marblehead
Henshaw, Miss Martha M., Methuen
Hobbs, Miss Addie B., Essex
Holmberg, G., Gloucester
Huff, Miss Phyllis M., Chelmsford
Hunt, George L., Jr., N. Andover
Johnson, Mrs. C. Philip, Walpole
Kadane, Jay, Exeter, N. H.
Kain, Miss Margaret, Swampscott

Kennard, Dr. John H., Manchester, N. H.
 King, Mrs. Thomas, Walpole
 Knisley, Raymond O., III, Westford
 Knowlton, Mrs. C. H., Hingham
 Koch, Henry R., Larchmont, N. Y.
 Kutney, Kenneth, Mattapan
 Lawson, Thomas, Fitchburg
 Leary, Wesley T., Worcester
 Leeds, Franklin E., E. Brookfield
 Lennihan, Mrs. Richard, Vineyard Haven
 Luzzi, Robert, Wollaston
 Loveday, Mrs. Lydia, New Haven, Conn.
 Lovell, George B., New Haven, Conn.
 MacCuspie, Miss Christine, Wollaston
 MacDonald, Miss Mildred,
 Indian Lake, N. Y.
 MacKinnon, Mrs. Margaret, W. Newbury
 Magnusson, Miss Anna M., Somerville
 Marston, Miss Dorothea, Hallowell, Me.
 Matthias, Mrs. Elaine, Branford, Conn.
 Mayr, Ernst, Cambridge
 Miller, Mrs. Richard C., Groton, Vt.
 Moore, Milton L., Dennis Port
 Motley, J. Lothrop, Sherborn
 Motley, Mrs. J. Lothrop, Sherborn
 Oldham, Jonathan, Holliston
 O'Leary, Rt. Rev. Timothy F., Boston
 Olsson, Miss Anna, Hamden, Conn.
 Osgood, William, Leverett
 Parsons, Mrs. Paul P., Hingham
 Peirce, Miss Katharine E., Boston

Pettingell, Mrs. J. M., S. Acton
 Phillips, Mrs. R. G. A.,
 Cleveland Hts., Ohio
 Phippard, Miss Louisa M., Boston
 Piper, Walter E., Wollaston
 Potter, C. Nathan, E. Holliston
 Prince, Miss Ida J., Wellesley
 Pyle, Dr. Lewis W., Cambridge
 Richardson, L. M., S. Lincoln
 Roe, Miss Harriet E., Worcester
 Rogers, Mrs. Samuel S., Andover
 Roser, Daniel A., Bergenfield, N. J.
 Russ, Philip W., New York, N. Y.
 Schwab, Albert F., Lenoxdale
 Sears, Dr. E. Manning, Boston
 Seely, Albert L., Amherst
 Shaw, Mrs. Milton M., Berlin, N. H.
 Sherrerd, Mrs. George, Walpole
 Stevenson, Harold D., Rockland
 Stratton, Mrs. Charles L., Windham, N. H.
 Sullivan, Mrs. Edward A., Harwich Port
 Verrill, Mrs. Floyd, Concord
 Wells, Mrs. Richard, Boxboro
 West, Miss Gene M., Brookline, N. H.
 Wetherell, Miss Dorothy L., Mansfield
 Whiting, Edward C., Cambridge
 Wilson, Rev. C. C., Cohasset
 Wisewell, Mrs. Edward L., Somerville
 Wolcott, Mrs. Roger, Cohasset
 Woodard, Mrs. Leroy, Wayland
 Wright, Carleton Fay, Plymouth

Cross-section of Flood Havoc in Connecticut

We thought it might be of some interest to you to hear what happened to us during the flood which ravaged Connecticut and the Northeast this summer. The small woodworking shop which turns the wooden part of the Audubon Birdcall,* and which, incidentally, operates on water power, was completely flooded. Our stock of wooden dowling was washed down the Farmington River and will doubtless make someone an excellent supply of kindling wood this winter. The shop where we assemble and test the bird calls fared a little better. Being on somewhat higher ground, only about a foot of water reached it, and it has been necessary just to clean out an inch of mud and river bottom to get back into production. One of our employees, an elderly woman who hand-paints the birdcalls, was roused at 2 A.M. by water coming up the stairs into the second story of her house. She escaped through a window and stood on the river bank watching her house float away. She is now staying at our shop until she finds another house somewhere. Our loss was infinitesimal compared to most in this area. For almost everyone else with shops, factories, or businesses along the river, the damage has been staggering. However, just as we are, they are now back into production, and their varied products will be on the counters and shelves all over the country this year, just as they have been for the last century.

ROGER W. EDDY

*A popular item carried in Audubon's Store.



BOOK REVIEWS

WILD FOWL DECOYS. By Joel Barber. Dover Publications, Inc., New York. 1954. 156 pages, 140 illustrations with four in color. \$8.50.

In 1934 Windward House published Joel Barber's delightfully written and remarkably illustrated book about wild fowl decoys. For twenty years he had collected decoys from Nova Scotia to South Carolina, gathering all types, conversing with gunners and decoy makers, both amateur and professional. He searched for and found ancient examples of the wooden blocks that had been used for generations to lure ducks, geese, and snipe within range of the hunters' guns, and in doing so he also heard and recorded the local folk lore of their use and development. The sum total of the knowledge that he gained is set forth in this book in a way that charms the reader even while he realizes that he is reading what is "technically a textbook." Being a skilled architect, the author has drawn many beautiful and accurate plates showing the front, side, and top views of decoys of various kinds, as well as cross sections showing the method of construction.

"The origin and development of decoys has remained in persistent obscurity," Mr. Barber points out, and adds that no one has ever bothered about them as he has. He expresses the wish that "the decoy flocks of American duck-shooting have a pedigree of their own." This wish has come true in the twenty years that have followed the first publication of his book. Many readers of that edition have become collectors of decoys. Those handmade carvings of wood, some crudely cut with hatchet and knife, others showing the skill of an artist, have come to be looked upon as rare examples of early Americana and are treasured as such.

This new Dover edition is an unabridged republication of the first edition, with all of the old illustrations and an appendix containing photographs and drawings published for the first time. The republication of Joel Barber's delightful book is particularly timely and fortunate. It will encourage many persons to become interested in the legend of decoy making and usage, a legend that takes one back to the days when this land was occupied only by the Indian, who, by the use of duck skins stuffed with straw or with cleverly woven reed imitations, enticed waterfowl within the range of his net or arrow.

The first edition awakened my interest in decoys to the point that I wished to become a disciple of Barber. In those days it was relatively easy to find decoys in out-of-the-way waterfront towns and in fishermen's storehouses. In a few years interesting examples began to be assembled in my house, until almost two hundred, from all over the Atlantic seaboard and from as far west as the Mississippi Valley, have become the decoration of a unique room called the "Decoy Room." That they are a source of interest and pleasure to me and my friends is understandable. It did not, however, occur to me that people generally would be interested in them until both the Maryland Historical Society and the Peale Museum in Baltimore requested that a large part of the collection be put on exhibition in their galleries.

The Dover edition of Joel Barber's *Wild Fowl Decoys* will rekindle this growing interest in the art of the American decoy maker, and will bring to richer fulfillment his wish that the decoys of American duck shooting have a pedigree.

J. KEMP BARTLETT, JR.

HIGHEST
TRADE-INS

on your
old equipment

Toward



**BAUSCH & LOMB - BUSHNELL
KERN SWISS - BECK GERMAN
and other
BINOCULARS - TELESCOPES**

Postpaid Free Trial

Buy from an active birder
who knows your problems.

BARTLETT HENDRICKS

Binocular Headquarters

Pittsfield 50-T Mass.



Would you try to land
on a building protected by Nixalite?
120 sabres pointed at you in every
foot! Strong, durable and dependable
for effective service. Let us rid your
building of birds. Estimates gladly given.

**THE FLYNN ROOFING
& SHEET METAL WORKS**
6 Portland Street, Cambridge, Mass.

BOOK REVIEWS, cont.

WILD AMERICA. By Roger Tory Peterson and James Fisher. Illustrated by Roger Tory Peterson. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. 1955. 434 pages. \$5.00.

Ever since meeting James Fisher on the New England lap of his journey through "Wild America" and hearing Roger Peterson's tale of the Alaskan portion of the trip, so beautifully illustrated with motion pictures, people have been eagerly waiting for the publication of the story of this remarkable tour. Think of thirty thousand miles of travel during one hundred adventure-packed days, beginning with the landing at Newfoundland, then covering the perimeter of the United States, with even a dip into Mexico, and finishing with the Pribilof Islands off the Alaska coast! Would not we all like to participate in such a journey with two of the world's leading naturalists? Now you can enjoy such an adventure, for in *Wild America* the authors share most delightfully their joint experiences, the animals and plants, the rocks and rivers and deserts they found, from the density of New York City to vast areas of wilderness still unspoiled.

The authors divide the writing, Peterson often beginning and ending a chapter, leaving Fisher to fill in with observations gleaned from voluminous notes. The black-and-white sketches by Peterson seem to be some of the finest he has done.

As Fisher approached Newfoundland, he was surprised that the first bird sighted should be a Gannet, the last species he had viewed as he flew from Britain. His excitement and pleasure mount as he joins Peterson to visit the Ipswich River Sanctuary of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, where they are welcomed by a typical Audubon group on a field trip.

They continue their tour, which includes the Concord River in Massachusetts, Rhode Island — the smallest State but producing some new birds for their records — New York City, the Great Smokies, Florida and the Tortugas, Texas and the cloud forests of Mexico, and, finally, the Pacific coast, from California to Washington and Alaska. Interesting pauses for observation are made everywhere — in national parks and monuments, Audubon sanctuaries, Fish and Wildlife Service refuges — and always helpful people along the way point out headline features.

BOOK REVIEWS, cont.

The titles of the chapters of *Wild America* truly reflect the color and romance imparted to the reader. "Atlantic Gateway," "The Rude Bridge," "Wild Trails for the Millions," "On Top of Old Smoky," "Kites over the Sawgrass," "Flying Gardens of Avery Island," "From Inferno to Valley of Torture," "Tundra of the Emperors," and "Birds of the Seal Islands" are fair examples. Fisher is writing of a new and vast land he is visiting for the first time, Peterson is writing of a continent he knows and loves and is seeing anew as he shares it with his English colleague.

As James Fisher returned to England with his "bag" of six hundred species of birds observed, what was the most important impression he took home from America? Was it the 401 new birds added to his life list, or was it the sight of the Grand Canyon, which was even more breathtaking than anticipated? We select a few of his comments from the chapter "Back Home," for they are encouraging to all of us who are interested in preserving the outdoor heritage of America: "We Europeans who have not visited North Americans in their homes, read of them and see what the movies show us. Many of us get half a light on half a life — the dollar half: Rugged Individualism, Private Enterprise, Showmanship, Power Politics. We do not see so well the rugged altruism, the public spirit, the guardianship, the fair dealing of the American at home. . . . never have I seen such wonders or met landlords so worthy of their land. They have had, and still have, the power to ravage it; and instead have made it a garden."

Wild America is truly a saga you cannot afford to miss. Any bookdealer would be perfectly safe in offering to refund your money if you were not satisfied after reading it. It would seem destined through its fine and entertaining writing, its good humor, and its well-interpreted picture of the beauty of outdoor North America, to rank as a classic of its kind.

C. RUSSELL MASON

Carry Membership Card

To save time of both customers and sales staff, it is requested that members bring their membership cards with them when shopping at Audubon House or at the Audubon sanctuaries. Take advantage of member's discount.

Sanderson Brothers

Creators of
Fine Printing and Lithography
NORTH ABINGTON, MASS.

Rockland Boston Providence
2000 Liberty 2-9196 Jackson 1-3411

M. ABBOTT FRAZAR COMPANY
FUR STORAGE

Remodeling — Repairing — Cleaning

Furriers since 1869

R. T. NEWTON S. A. BARBARA
WILLIAM KELLEHER

At Haymarket Square
14 Sudbury Street Capitol 7-6280



PUDDINGTON FEEDER

This feeder holds 5 lbs. of grain and is easily filled from the top. It may be used as a hanging feeder or rest on a post or a window sill.

Price \$8.00 Express Collect

"Birders," when in this region, make your headquarters at

The Yankee Travler
Route 3, Plymouth, Mass.

MANAGER, FRED W. ALLEN

Tel.: Plymouth 250

**For Sale at
AUDUBON HOUSE**

AN IDEAL FOOD FOR BIRDS

**MOOSE HILL SPECIAL
BIRD FOOD MIXTURE**

5 lbs. 10 lbs. 25 lbs. 50 lbs. 100 lbs.
1.30 2.25 5.60 9.50 17.50

Peanut hearts, 5 lbs. 1.95
10 lbs. 3.35

Sunflower Seed also available
5 lbs. 10 lbs. 25 lbs. 50 lbs. 100 lbs.
1.95 3.35 7.25 11.00 20.50

(This is small seed, but full of meat.)

5 to 25 lbs., shipped parcel post.

50 to 100 lb. lots, express collect.

10% discount to members.

BIRD RESTAURANTS

Hanging Feeders

Kepe Nete Feeder \$10.00
(also fitted for iron post.)

Glass Swing Feeder 3.50

Bird Filling Station 4.95

All Metal Automat Feeder 6.25

Ranch Feeder 5.95

Puddington Feeder 8.00

Holds 5 lbs.

Window Feeders

Skylight Window Feeder, 17-inch 5.45

24-inch 7.75

Storm Window Feeder 6.00

Bird Cafes, 16-inch 5.95

25-inch 6.95

Outdoor Revolving Feeders

Cape Cod Inn, painted white 15.95

stained brown 11.95

Metal Squirrel Foil 3.95

Chickadee Tidbits (box of 24) 1.25

Suet Cakes — square, 30c; oblong, 35c;
wedge, 45c.

No discount on individual items under \$1.00

10% discount to members,
on all Bird Restaurants.

**NO SHOOTING
OR
NO TRESPASSING
POSTERS
ON HEAVY
WEATHER-RESISTANT
PAPER**

10c each

No discount on Posters

W. H. HUDSON. By Ruth Tomalin. Philosophical Library, Inc., New York. 1954. 145 pages. \$3.50.

This biography of W. H. Hudson is a well-documented factual account of the lonely and tragic life of one of the world's greatest lovers and interpreters of nature. It is actually no more than an unadorned cataloguing of the life of Hudson, beginning with his sickly youth spent on the pampas of La Plata, Argentina, and ending with his last sad years endured in the "stone forest" of London.

Since it is the first full biography of Hudson's life, the book is valuable purely from the standpoint of organizing knowledge about him from the writings of others and from his own journals and published and unpublished letters. However, Miss Tomalin's style of writing is stilted, and certainly the scope of the book is limited. It serves only to communicate the necessary body of facts about this great naturalist. One who knows Hudson through his sensitive and beautiful *Green Mansions* or *The Purple Land* cannot fail to be disappointed in reading this biography.

There is tragedy, drama, and pathos of the highest order in the story of this man who wrote "The sense of beauty is God's best gift to the human soul" and who, married to a woman who did not understand him, spent the greater part of his life in a drab part of London, recollecting and writing about the passionate beauty of the land of his childhood. A man of Hudson's stature and place in time could be the subject of a beautiful and moving story.

MARY LELA GRIMES

**SECOND
CARIBBEAN BIRD TOUR**

to

CUBA and JAMAICA

Next APRIL

Watch for article and details
in December Bulletin.

Carry Membership Card

To save time of both customers and sales staff, it is requested that members bring their membership cards with them when shopping at Audubon House or at the Audubon sanctuaries. Take advantage of member's discount.

BOOK REVIEWS, cont.

THE WONDERFUL WORLD. The Adventure of the Earth We Live On. By James Fisher. Art editor, F. H. K. Henrion. Hanover House, Garden City, N. Y. 1954. 67 pages. \$2.50.

If you are looking for a good children's book about our planet from its beginning to the present, here it is, and one that more than lives up to its title of adventure. *The Wonderful World* is arranged in three parts: "How the World Began," dealing with the formation of the earth and the ages of life; "The Face of the World," explaining seasons, precipitation, winds, plant life, and nature's forces; and "Man's World," his food, animals, minerals, power, and life on various parts of it. In these three main chapters, totaling only sixty-seven pages, is probably the most complete history of the earth and doings of man to be found in any comparable publication. Nearly every subject is covered, from the formation of the earth to man's occupations in the various climates. It is primarily a picture book with cogent paragraphs of explanatory text. The color illustrations include pictures of the dinosaurs, relief maps of the continents, showing such things as the various foods and religious faiths of the peoples of the earth, and explanatory diagrams of the workings of nature's forces — erosion, for example. These are beautifully done, a delight to the eye, and a masterpiece of clarity. My only criticism of this book is that there is sometimes insufficient explanation for the young reader, as, for example, about the diagrams of the seasons and moon phases, but this may be quickly rectified by a word of explanation from an adult.

This book is for any age. The young can enjoy and profit from the large, graphic illustrations of the age of reptiles and others, while the older child can acquire a wide basic knowledge of his earth as it was and is. Even the adult will find simple, concise explanations of many aspects of the world about which one may have questions.

James Fisher and art director Henrion should be highly commended for this work, which would be valuable for enjoyment or reference at home or in the classroom and which is well worth the price.

ELLEN BENNETT

FOR SALE AT
AUDUBON HOUSE

Slightly Damaged Books

No Discount

Arizona and Its Bird Life	\$12.00
Herbert Brandt	
Mexican Birds:	
First Impressions	8.50
George Miksch Sutton	
Florida Bird Life	9.50
Alexander Sprunt, Jr.	
Birds of the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts	4.00
Bagg and Eliot	
Collins Pocket Guide To British Birds	3.00
Fitter and Richardson	
London's Birds	1.75
R. S. R. Fitter	
Birds of Britain	1.00
Wilfred Willett	
The Flame Birds	2.00
Robert Porter Allen	
Carolina Quest	2.00
Richard M. Saunders	
Woodcock	2.50
John Alden Knight	
Woodcock Ways	3.00
Henry Marion Hall	
Where Winter Never Comes ..	2.50
Marston Bates	
The Lungfish and The Unicorn	2.00
Willy Ley	
Sketches of American Wildlife	1.75
Stanley Paul Young	
Mammals of Lake Tahoe	2.50
Robert T. Orr	
Our Wildlife Legacy	3.50
Durward L. Allen	
Wildlife Refuges	2.50
Ira N. Gabrielson	
Climate, Vegetation and Man	2.75
Leonard Hadlow	
The Strange Story of Our Earth	2.75
A. Hyatt Verrill	
The Shell Collector's Handbook	2.75
A. Hyatt Verrill	
Sea Shells	1.00
Ruth Dudley	
The Wonderful World Of Insects	2.75
Albro Gaul	

Fill Your Yard With Colorful Song Birds! BIRD'S DINNER PAIL



No. DP 4

\$2.75

Filled
(add 25¢
postage)

Sturdy wire construction. Rubber covered perches. Hangs anywhere. Complete with full pint peanut-suet-seed cake. Birds love it! Refill No. BD 3, \$1.50, postpaid.



THE DUAL

The Dual Glass seen reservoir automatically feeds seed into veranda. Use as a feeder in winter and Robin's shelter in summer.

complete with quart of special Hyde Seed.

No. SH-SI \$4.95 (filled)
(add 50 cents postage)

HYDE BIRD FEEDER CO.

56 Felton Street Waltham 54, Mass.

Write for Free Catalog

Attract Wild Birds NOW!

With this Guaranteed Automatic A-W Bird Feeder

Attracts Wild Birds the year around. Sturdily built with plastic seed container 2 1/2" x 7". Hangs anywhere.



Pat.

\$3.75

End Squirrel Nuisance... with A-W's "Squirrel's Defeat" Feeder. Birds will feed from this feeder in complete safety. Made of sturdy materials.



Pat.

Free Folder.

Send name and address for complete folder.

audubon workshop

Wonder Lake, Ill.

BOOK REVIEWS, cont.

PUFFINS. By R. M. Lockley. Illustrated with a colored frontispiece by C. F. Tunnicliffe, drawings in the text by Nancy Crawford, and 16 pages of photographs. Devin-Adair Company, New York. 1953. 186 pages. \$4.00.

Puffins, like penguins, stand out from the avian throng as highly amusing creatures for, by several inexplicable quirks in evolution, they have come to possess peculiarities of form and behavior that seem to caricature human traits. Moreover, they are birds of bizarre appearance — there are no other sea birds with such brightly colored, strangely shaped bills. And, finally, puffins are gregarious, with a variety of intricate social rituals. All of these factors serve to arouse one's curiosity as to the real nature of puffins. Indeed, they are an appropriate subject for book-length treatment, and it is particularly fortunate that R. M. Lockley has been the one to present it.

For some twenty years Mr. Lockley has been a devoted student of puffins. Although there are three species of puffins in the world, all confined to northern seas and apparently of similar habits, Mr. Lockley has concentrated on the Atlantic Puffin. His investigations were conducted among large colonies on islands off the coast of Wales, and it is with the results of this work that this book is largely concerned. Since the Atlantic Puffin breeds off the coast of Maine on Machias Seal Island and Matinicus Rock, the book should be of special interest to readers of the *Bulletin* because it deals with a representative of the New England avifauna.

Chapter by chapter the book takes up various stages in the breeding cycle of puffins, from the spring gathering of adults offshore — prior to coming to land — to the departure of young birds from their burrows to the sea under the cover of darkness. In addition, there are chapters on such topics as life expectancy and natural enemies, as well as several appendices containing much classified data.

One who has visited the small puffin colony on Machias Seal Island will gain new impressions of puffins on reading this book. The colonies which the author used for study are enormous. Hence there is considerably more competition among individuals for nesting territories, while predation by gulls is excessive. Group behavior is more evident, providing more opportunities to observe "joy-flights," "billing," and other social interactions. Nearly

BOOK REVIEWS, cont.

all pairs occupy excavated burrows, instead of nesting under boulders as they do on Machias Seal Island.

Mr. Lockley very cleverly manages to give a wealth of facts and scientific interpretations in a very readable manner, sparked with humorous touches. In order to sharpen the enjoyment and understanding of puffins, he draws numerous comparisons between human and puffin behavior, while avoiding the temptation to endow puffins with human qualities. Every page reveals that the author has an intense fondness for puffins and is fascinated by them. In fact, one has only to read the first few pages to catch the author's enthusiasm for his subjects and be compelled to keep reading. Nancy Crawford's many line drawings scattered through the book serve greatly to enliven the reader's interest.

OLIN SEWALL PETTINGILL, JR.

PETE, THE PARRAKEET. By Irma Simonton Black. Illustrated by Kurt Werth. Holiday House, New York. 1954. 97 pages. \$2.50.

Here is a charming book for children about one of today's most popular pets. Pete, the talking parakeet, starts out in a pet shop and goes from one home to another until he finds a happy one with a youngster. His first home, where he is considered more as an article of furniture than an individual, is a good example of the improper care of pets, a sharp contrast to the one in which the reader leaves him. Throughout the story is unobtrusively woven the rules for the proper care of any pet, emphasizing the need for good food, water, and exercise. But most important is the need for love and attention, without which any pet will languish and which is so necessary for successful training. In Pete's case, when his owners did not talk to or pay attention to him, he reciprocated by becoming a silent, miserable bird and so such people never know the happy companionship he, or any other warm-blooded pet, can give.

Kurt Werth's delightful illustrations add enormously to the enjoyment of this book and give the child a true feeling of the character of these little birds. The print is sufficiently large to allow the child to read the book himself, although most adults would enjoy reading it aloud. This should be a popular choice, since it not only tells a story which will appeal to children but also educates the child in the proper care of any pet he may have.

ELLEN BENNETT

THE BIRDS of MASSACHUSETTS

An Annotated and Revised Check List

by

Ludlow Griscom

and

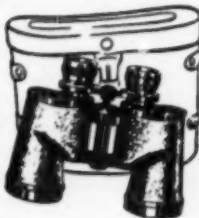
Dorothy E. Snyder

xiii + 295 pages, 3 maps

Pre-publication orders received at
The Peabody Museum
Salem, Mass.

Paper Bound: \$3.75 Cloth: \$4.95

BINOCULAR



Headquarters
Nationally
Advertised

**Bausch
& Lomb**

Hensoldt

Zeiss

Swift and Bushnell Selected
Japanese Binoculars.

And Other NEW BINOCULARS

Large Selection of Rebuilt Binoculars

F. C. Meichsner Co., Inc.

157 Federal St.

HA 6-7092

Boston, Mass.

Members of Audubon Society

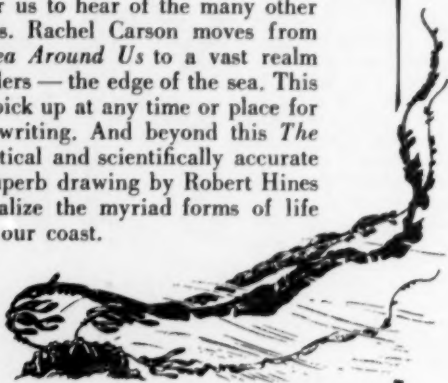
Mail and phone orders filled postpaid

Expert Repairing

The Edge of the Sea

Rachel Carson • Earth-bound creatures as we are, it is endlessly fascinating for us to hear of the many other arenas where life abounds. Rachel Carson moves from the salt depths of *The Sea Around Us* to a vast realm daily visible to shore-dwellers — the edge of the sea. This is a book to live with, to pick up at any time or place for the pure lyricism of the writing. And beyond this *The Edge of the Sea* is a practical and scientifically accurate guide to the shore. The superb drawing by Robert Hines enable the reader to visualize the myriad forms of life that inhabit the world of our coast.

\$3.95



Wild America

Roger Tory Peterson and James Fisher • When two such distinguished and enthusiastic naturalists as Roger Tory Peterson and his British opposite number, James Fisher, join forces for a 30,000 mile tour of North America, repercussions are wide spread and Field Guide fans eagerly take notice. Fisher was seeing our continent for the first time, his words, translated from notes made on the trip, are so spontaneous and full of excitement that readers will see their own continent anew, as Roger Peterson did, through his eyes. Never before had an Englishman, or indeed have very few Americans, seen as much of North America's remaining wilderness. Handsome line drawings by Roger Tory Peterson.

\$5.00



Mail this coupon to:

Massachusetts Audubon Society, 155 Newbury St., Boston 16, Mass.

Please send me.....
copies of *The Edge of
the Sea* at \$3.95 each,
and/or.....copies of
Wild America at
\$5.00 each.

☐ Check enclosed ☐ Money order

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY..... ZONE..... STATE.....

BOOK REVIEWS, cont.

THE HOUSE ON NAUSET MARSH.
By Wyman Richardson. Illustrated by
Henry Bugbee Kane. Norton Company,
New York, 1955. 233 pages, \$3.75.

Nauset Marsh. Even for one whose acquaintance with Cape Cod is relatively recent, what a vivid picture of sand dunes, flats, rolling moors and marsh that name has the power to recall. The author of *The House on Nauset Marsh*, however, was no recent visitor but a distinguished Boston physician who from boyhood had known, loved, and grown wise in his observations of the Salt Pond area near Eastham. All of nature — the tides, the migration of birds, the whims of the weather — was of keen interest; when and where the fish ran, which butterflies floated gracefully by the Farm House in early September, the outer beach during a storm, the surprise visit of a powerful gyrfalcon. He brought to these interests the inquiring mind of a

scientist, coupled with great appreciation and keen observation.

The Farm House which was the home base for so many years is the setting for this collection of essays woven so skillfully into an account of days spent happily and wisely in watching the life about him. The Farm House was not only the site of many family excursions, but it offered the ideal atmosphere in which to formulate his own theories as to how birds find their way about, their intelligence, their sense of time, even a brief formula for interpreting their language. A "do-nothing-day," with its period of sitting with bird glasses near at hand, was one of the best, a day to be enjoyed to its full by the author and coveted certainly by each reader.

Here then is a book to be cherished by all who share in the interests and enthusiasms of one who knew and loved the out of doors.

ESTHER GREENE

AUDUBON RENTAL DEPARTMENT

Binoculars, 7 x 35, \$1.00 per day \$5.00 per week
Telescope and tripod \$6.50 per week

BIRD SONG RECORDINGS BY CORNELL UNIVERSITY

New Volume I 60 Bird Songs 33 1/3 R.P.M.

75 cents for three days, \$1.50 a week

Volume II 51 Bird Songs 33 1/3 R.P.M.

75 cents for three days, \$1.50 a week

Voices of the Night 33 1/3 R.P.M.

75 cents for three days, \$1.50 a week

Music and Bird Songs by Fassett 33 1/3 R.P.M.

75 cents for three days, \$1.50 a week

Volume I 72 Bird Songs 78 R.P.M., 75 cents for three days, \$1.50 a week

Volume II 51 Bird Songs 78 R.P.M., 75 cents for three days, \$1.50 a week

Voices of the Night 78 R.P.M., 75 cents for three days, \$1.50 a week

10 Western Bird Songs 78 R.P.M., 50 cents for three days, \$1.00 a week

10 Florida Bird Songs 78 R.P.M., 50 cents for three days, \$1.00 a week

24 Songbirds of America 78 R.P.M., 50 cents for three days, \$1.00 a week

STILLWELL RECORDINGS 33 1/3 R.P.M.

75 cents for three days, \$1.50 a week

Volume I, Songs of Dooryard, Field and Forest, 135 distinctive songs and calls of 49 different species.

Volume II, 140 different songs and calls from 58 species

3 Wrens, 3 Flycatchers, 6 Vireos, 10 Sparrows, 14 Warblers

SOUNDS OF THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST 33 1/3 R.P.M.

75 cents for three days, \$1.50 a week

KODACHROME SLIDES TO ACCOMPANY

Volume I, Voices of the Woods \$2.50 per week

Volume II, American Bird Songs \$2.50 per week

Voices of the Night \$2.00 per week

New Books

Wild America. <i>Roger Tory Peterson and James Fisher</i>	\$ 5.00
The Edge of the Sea. <i>Rachel Carson</i>	3.95
*The Waterfowl of the World. Vol. I. <i>Illustrated by Peter Scott</i>	12.50
Birds of the World, Their Life and Habits. <i>Paul Barruel</i>	12.50
How to Watch Birds. <i>Roger Barton</i>	3.50
The Stars. <i>H. A. Rey</i> . A new way to See Them	4.50
Attracting Birds to Your Backyard. <i>W. J. Beecher</i>	1.00
Plum Island and Its Bird Life. <i>Ludlow Griscom</i>75
North American Birds of Prey. <i>Alexander Sprunt, Jr.</i>	5.00

*No discount

**Audubon House Has A Fine Selection of Christmas Cards
For Those Interested In Nature, at 5-10-15 cents each.**

THE NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC LAMP SHADE

Day and night your favorite photographs are richly framed to display them at their finest. The best way to display photographs, because you can change photos in seconds.

Quickly assembled, all metal construction.

**Black
or antique finish \$6.95**

**Set of six Blake Johnson
bird prints 6.00**



Single frame size, 6 $\frac{3}{8}$ in. wide, 7 $\frac{5}{8}$ in. high
Diameter assembled: base, 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.,
top, 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ in.

Choice of five 1956 CALENDARS: Our Daily Reminder,

Wild Birds in color	\$1.00
The Minerals and Rocks Engagement Calendar	1.50
Audubon Bird Engagement Calendar	1.25

**Boxes of six small calendars and envelopes. Choice of wild
birds or butterflies and moths and flowers \$1.00**

Audubon Field Trips

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20. To Newburyport and Cape Ann. Leaders: Bennett Keenan, Bertram Leadbeater, Davis Crompton, and C. Russell Mason. Chartered bus will leave Audubon House, 155 Newbury Street, Boston, at 8:15 A.M., returning to Audubon House at approximately 7:00 P.M. Bring lunch. Fare and guide fee, \$3.00. Fee for those using private cars and following bus, 75 cents per person. Reservations should be made a week in advance. Cancellations cannot be accepted after noon on Friday, November 18.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22. To South Shore. Leaders: Sibley Higginbotham, Robert Fox, C. Russell Mason, Mrs. Ruth P. Emery.

Brookline Bird Club Trips

Open to Members of the Massachusetts Audubon Society

November 5, all day. Newburyport and Artichoke. Leader to be announced.

November 6, afternoon. Nahant. Leader to be announced.

November 11, all day. Rockport and Cape Ann. Leader to be announced.

November 12, all day. Automobile trip to Lakeville. Mrs. Argue, Kenmore 6-3604. Afternoon, Arnold Arboretum. Leader to be announced.

November 19, all day. Newburyport and vicinity. Afternoon, Nahant. Leaders to be announced.

November 26. Spy Pond, Arlington. Mr. Foley.

December 3, all day. Prides Crossing, Gordon Campus, Danvers Reservoir, and vicinity. Leader to be announced.

December 4, afternoon. Devereux and Marblehead Neck.

For Sale at AUDUBON HOUSE, 155 Newbury St., Boston

All merchandise shipped subject to postal charges

Binoculars

Bausch and Lomb Binoculars with Coated Lenses. Cases included.

7 x 35 Zephyr-Light Binocular, central focus	\$170.50
8 x 30 Zephyr-Light Binocular, central focus	187.00
9 x 35 Zephyr-Light Binocular, central focus	187.00
7 x 50 Binocular, individual focus	192.50

Swift Line of Japanese Binoculars. Cases included.

6 x 30 Light Weight, central focus	\$29.70
7 x 35 Light Weight, central focus	54.45
7 x 35 Light Weight, central focus, wide angle lens	60.50
8 x 30 Light Weight, central focus	55.00
7 x 50 Medium Weight, central focus	76.45

Prices include tax

Bausch and Lomb Telescope

A handy, light scope, with interchangeable eye pieces. Length 16½ inches. Weight 48 ounces. This telescope adds a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction to coastal birding.

B and L Telescope, 20x or 30x \$95.00

NOW! MAGNIFY WILDLIFE 7 TIMES**Effortlessly**

WITH THE NEW



"WONDER METAL"★ encased
7x,35 BINOCULAR

*Magnesium . . . lightest practical metal known to man. A center focus glass, with coated lenses, wide field of view. Genuine leather plush-lined case with straps and accessories included. Guaranteed. Made in Japan.



Only
 Weighs 18.2
 Ounces

\$58.50

PLUS TAX

OTHER MODELS FROM \$43.50

SWIFT & ANDERSON INC.



DEPT. MA 9, 952 DORCHESTER AVE.
 BOSTON 25, MASS.

From Our Correspondence

News from Wendell P. Smith

"I often think of the Audubon members and would like to attend the meetings and field trips, but it is much farther to Boston now than it was from Vermont. I have made a number of bird friends here and enjoy the meetings of the Carolina Bird Club when I can attend. However, Pea Island is about as far from my home here as Washington, D. C., is from my former home in New England.

"I enjoy North Carolina, and the bird life is not as different here as I thought it might be. Except for a few winter visitors, I have seen most of those in Vermont. I was pleased to see Evening Grosbeaks from March to the end of the third week of April. They created some excitement here, for it was the first time many people had seen them, and it may well have been the birds' first visit here. They fed on the fruit of the hackberry, and as there are many trees of that species here they prolonged their visit. They fed on hackberry fruit at Newbury, Vermont, also.

"There are almost no marshes here, but I found a dead Virginia Rail last summer. A mountain stream has been dammed for the town's water supply, and the pond extends upstream for a mile. It provides habitat for both waders and ducks. Along its shores I have seen American Bittern, Great and Little Blue Herons, the Green Heron, and on the larger river, the Yadkin, a few American Egrets. For ducks, I have seen Mallards, Black Ducks, Blue-winged Teal, Wood Ducks, European Widgeon, Ring-necked Duck, and Lesser Scaup. A

few miles away a two-or-three-acre fish pond (artificial) has had Baldpate and Buffle-head, and at Ronda about 200 Canada Geese winter on the Yadkin and are fed by Thurmond Chatham, representative in Congress from this district. There are no natural ponds in this section but land owners have dammed brooks and made fish ponds varying in size from one to five acres. One owner of some two acres grossed \$4000 the first year from fishing fees. These ponds are beginning to attract shore birds as well as wildfowl. On one this spring a Greater Yellow-legs was wading along the margin, and on another a year ago I saw Spotted, Solitary, Semipalmated, and Western Sandpipers.

"I like a walk along a dirt road beside the town reservoir. Red clay often stains the water, but when it is relatively clear there are beautiful reflections of trees and shrubs along its bank. The varying shades of green and red displayed by the emerging leaves of sycamore, willows, river birch, tulip tree, swamp maple, and smooth alder, and the flowers of redbud, tulip tree, rhododendron, mountain laurel, Frazer's magnolia, and flowering dogwood are especially lovely mirrored from the water's surface and in their natural setting. There I hear the varied repertoire of Yellow-breasted Chats; the liquid melody of Hooded Warblers; the flute notes of Wood-Thrushes; and a medley of White-eyed and Red-eyed Vireos, Cardinals, Yellow-billed Cuckoos, Black and White Warblers, and Redstarts.

There are woods adjoining with a brook

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

running through bordered by mountain laurel thickets. Bracken, Christmas and New York ferns, lady fern, and ebony spleenwort carpet the forest floor. Mosses and lichens are common in the damper portions. Of flowers, the early spring brings out trailing arbutus, bloodroot, hepatica, and rue anemone, the last absent from my former Vermont home. A little later come Carolina vetch, the pink of Catesby's trillium — growing deeper with age, and the crested iris, growing in dry places but more conspicuous than the blue flag of the North. The purple trillium also grows there, another link with New England. Early May brings the gorgeous fire pink and the wandlike spikes of galax.

In the early morning the appeal to both eye and ear is charming. To watch the soft light of dawn change to full light of day with its effects on a mass of blooming mountain laurel, while listening to a bird chorus of many Wood Thrushes, Mountain and Yellow-throated and Red-eyed Vireos, Blue-headed Carolina Wrens, Hooded

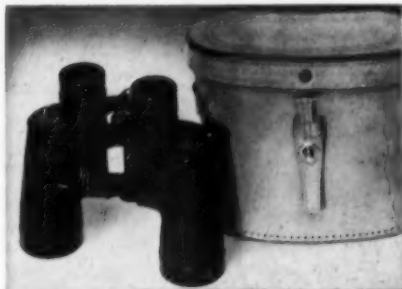
Warblers, Oven-birds, Summer and Scarlet Tanagers, Cardinals, and Red-eyed Towhees, is something of which I never tire. A new note was introduced this morning when I heard a sound overhead and looked up to behold two baby Barred Owls, just out of the nest, peering down at me. Occasionally a transient joins the chorus, such as Magnolia, Black-poll, Bay-breasted, Canada, Wilson's, or Mourning Warbler. Strangely, the Olive-backed Thrush, often silent in my Vermont home, sings here in spring migrations, while the wintering Hermit is rarely vocal just before its departure. I have yet to hear the song of a Veery here, and rarely do I see the bird or hear its call note.

This country has a variety of snakes, but I have yet to see a live one. I have identified a number of species from remains on the highways. My favorite woods contain both rattlesnakes and copperheads, but so far they have kept out of my way."

No. Wilkesboro, N.C. Wendell P. Smith

A STODDARD'S QUALITY GLASS

Only **\$29⁹⁵** plus 10% tax



These Stoddard's imported binoculars come with a lifetime guarantee against defects in workmanship or materials. The 7 x 35 is universally recognized as the best all-around birding glass. These are really exceptional at this unheard-of low price. They are fast, easy center-focusing with right-eye adjustment for perfect definition. Hard-coated lenses and prism surfaces. Wide field and excellent brilliance. Complete with fine pigskin case and carrying straps.

This glass has been so popular with members of the Massachusetts Audubon Society that we are now offering it nationally. Please mention The Bulletin of the Massachusetts Audubon Society when you order.

Mail and phone orders filled postpaid

STODDARD'S

Open
Monday
Evenings

374 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

HAncock 6-4187

Serving New England For Over 100 Years

Opposite
Bromfield
Street



IDEAL CHRISTMAS GIFT

Squirrel Stay Out

CHICKADEES

NUTHATCHES

TITMICE

Fly In and Out

The Seed Stays Dry

Price Includes

WEATHER-PROOFED FEEDER

AND WINDOW BRACKET

COPPER WIRE

BOWL FULL OF SEED

All Postpaid

1st Feeder \$5.95

2nd Feeder \$4.95

Approved by National Audubon Society

MELLOR DOME FEEDER

Dept. M Englewood, N. J.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE, cont.

August in California

"It would seem good to be able to visit you and to exchange nature notes face to face, but since I can't I will send a letter instead.

"Have not seen too many birds recently, but I have visited Fort Cronkhite, several beaches, and Mt. Tamalpais. Fort Cronkhite, on the Marin Coast, is a military establishment with a sea beach made up of small stones of many sizes, usually greenish, blue, red, or brown in color. Among the pebbles are forms of 'poor jade,' jasper, carnelian, and quartz. It is hard to come back from Cronkhite without a pocketful of rocks. There are many starfishes and limpets and gooseneck and acorn barnacles, and mussels cling to all the rocks reached by the tide. Pale green and red and white sea anemones occur around the bottoms of the stones in the tidal zone and in the tide pools. An occasional shadow on the surface of a tide pool shows where a kelp fish has darted across and hidden in a crack. Curlews, gulls of various sorts, cormorants, and Brown Pelicans are occasionally seen. The beach is littered with strands of kelp and mole crabs. Glass net floats are occasionally found and are always prized souvenirs.

"On another beach, two birds with slender pointed wings, long narrow tails, and swift flight were seen to be nesting on a cliff ledge. The Duck Hawks were very much worried about the presence of people

on their beach. They wheeled and turned and called until we left. They may have had eggs, since one bird was on the nest while the other was in the air most of the time we were there. The hawks were not too worried to hunt, for one of them dropped a Meadow Mouse caught on the fields above the beach and dropped it at our feet for identification.

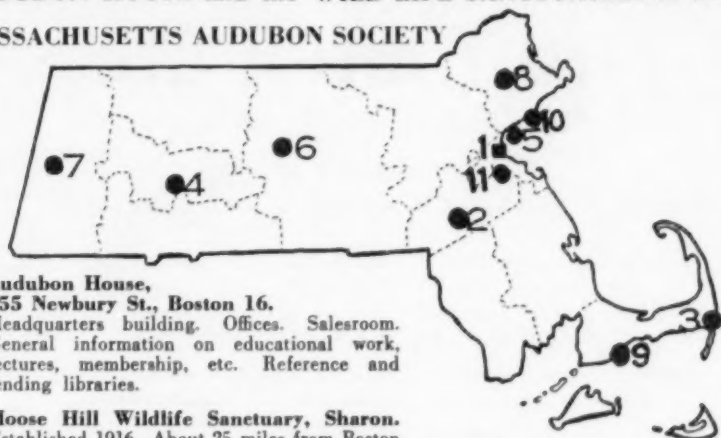
"Mt. Tamalpais is interesting botanically even in the dry season. Grindelia, the gum plant, is blooming, and hardy souls try chewing leaves of yerba santa, the Indians' chewing gum. Chaparral pea has just finished blooming, the silk tassel tree is fruiting, and the chinquapin is beautiful with its stickery chestnutlike pods. We heard quail and saw two sentinels but not the main flock, also heard Wren Tits, a wren, and several Scrub Jays. As we climbed up a fire trail, some of us glanced up and saw a Sparrow Hawk directly in front of us silhouetted against a Monterey cypress. It vanished in the fog as silently and suddenly as it had appeared.

"I have acquired a Striped Skunk about three months old that climbs everywhere by hooking her long front claws in things. The books say that skunks don't climb. Deezy must be an exception to the rule.

"I always enjoy reading the *Bulletin*. It is a good way to keep up with what my friends are doing in New England."

Jean Pyle

AUDUBON HOUSE and the WILD LIFE SANCTUARIES of the MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY



1. **Audubon House, 155 Newbury St., Boston 16.**
Headquarters building. Offices. Salesroom. General information on educational work, lectures, membership, etc. Reference and lending libraries.
2. **Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary, Sharon.**
Established 1916. About 25 miles from Boston near Providence Pike. 250 acres mixed woodland. Small pond. Museum. Nature Trails. Albert W. Bussewitz, Resident Director.
3. **Tern Island Wildlife Sanctuary, Chatham.**
Established 1936. 10 acres sand and beach grass. Large colony of nesting terns. Management, O. L. Austin Ornithological Research Station, North Eastham.
4. **Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Northampton.**
Established 1944. 300 acres meadow, marsh, and woodland. Nature Trails. Memorial and experimental plantings. Studio workshop. Edwin A. Mason, Resident Director.
5. **Nahant Thicket Wildlife Sanctuary, Nahant.**
Established 1948. 4 acres. On Atlantic Flyway. Hordes of migrating land birds in spring and fall. Trails.
6. **Cook's Canyon Wildlife Sanctuary, Barre.**
Established 1948. 35 acres. Coniferous plantation. Small pond. Rocky gorge. Interesting trails. Site of Natural Science Workshop for leaders and resident and day camps for boys and girls. David R. Miner, Resident Director.
7. **Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, Lenox.**
A "Bird and Wild Flower" Sanctuary since 1929. A square mile of typical Berkshire woodland and stream valley. Nature Trails. Trailside Museum. Beaver pond. Barn Restaurant in summer. Alvah W. Sanborn, Resident Director.
8. **Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary, Topsfield, Wenham and Hamilton.**
Established 1951. 2000 acres. On Ipswich River. Extensive marshland with islands. Great variety introduced trees and shrubs. Elmer P. Foye, Resident Director.
9. **Sampson's Island Wildlife Sanctuary, Cotuit.**
Established 1953. 16 acres sand and beach grass, nesting place of terns.
10. **Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, Marblehead.**
Established 1953. About 15 acres mixed hardwoods and maple-alder swamp, especially interesting during migrations.
11. **Rocky Knoll Sanctuary and Nature Center, Milton.**
Established 1955. Headquarters for the Audubon Education Staff of Eastern Massachusetts. Doris R. Manley, Resident Director.

"CONSERVATION IN ACTION"

THE AUDUBON EDUCATION PROGRAM

Is Supported Largely

By Your Current Dues and Donations

450 Weekly or Biweekly Classes in Conservation and Natural Science in the Schools of Massachusetts taught by our staff of twenty-three trained and experienced teachers reaching 16,000 boys and girls during the school year.

Demonstration Natural History Camps for Children at five of the ten Audubon Sanctuaries in Massachusetts.

Conservation and Natural Science Workshops for Camp Counselors, Teachers, and other Youth Group Leaders.

200 Lectures annually by members of the Audubon Staff to Garden Clubs, Women's Clubs, Parent-Teacher Associations, School Biology Classes, and other groups.

Therapy Programs for Patients at New England Hospitals.

Audubon Junior Clubs with 8,000 members in Schools, Museums and Camps.

Local Bird Trips and Campouts for healthful recreation.

Circulars relating to Bird and Mammal Conservation distributed regularly to Youth Group Leaders throughout the Commonwealth.

Audubon Visual Aids furnished at small cost to Teachers and Lecturers.

The BULLETIN OF THE MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY, an outstanding magazine in its field, published nine times a year. RECORDS OF NEW ENGLAND BIRDS, monthly.

Twenty-five Presentations of "AUDUBON NATURE THEATRE" in a dozen cities and towns of Massachusetts.

Lending and Reference Libraries available to members.

**WE APPRECIATE YOUR CO-OPERATION IN
CARRYING ON THIS MOST IMPORTANT WORK OF
THE SOCIETY.**

Will you consider the desirability of making the Massachusetts Audubon Society a legatee under your will, or make such recommendation to your friends?